

FreZno Dance Classic Contest Rules & Information - 2018

CONTEST SIGNUP TIMES, DEADLINES, FEES, and COMPETITION NUMBERS

All on-site entry fees to be paid in cash please – no personal checks, debit or credit cards.

For **FRIDAY** evening Strictly Swing contests – sign-ups close at 8:30 pm, or one hour prior to the contest start time as listed in the event schedule.

For **SATURDAY** contests – sign-up deadline in any contest is one hour prior to the contest start time as listed in our event schedule. Jack & Jill swing contest entry is 10:30 a.m till 1 pm.. See the event schedule for deadlines.

For **SUNDAY** morning Pro Am contests, the sign-up cut-off time is 9:30 am for Two Step and Night Club, and 10 am for West Coast Swing. All Stars & Champions J & J must sign up by 6 pm at the registration desk (no entry fee).

Contest Numbers - Leaders: You will be assigned and provided **one contest number** to be worn for all contests during the weekend. Followers will be assigned **one contest number** to be worn only in Pro Am as the ‘am’, and/or Jack & Jill contests as a follower. Please safeguard your contest number throughout the weekend.

JACK & JILL DETAILS AND CONTEST RULES - WEST COAST SWING & TWO STEP

All Jack & Jill Contests are gender specific – Men: Leader / Women: Follower

Two Step entry fees: \$21.00 per division.

West Coast Swing entry fees: \$20.00 for “All-In, High-Low”; \$21.00 for all other Divisions. All Swing Division entries will be per **World Swing Dance Council Points Registry** (past awards points determine division placement in Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, and All Stars). Juniors will compete in adult divisions based on WSDC Points and be a minimum of 12 years of age. This event will accrue points toward the World Swing Dance Council registry. To petition any divisional placement – please see Dani Canziani – the official representative for the WSDC.

PRIZES: Cash Awards only 1st through 5th place in Two Step and WCS Jack & Jill categories.

RULES: Male – lead, Female - follow. Contestants must be a minimum of 12 years of age with sufficient dance knowledge to dance at least the Novice level. No clothing or costume requirements in Two Step or WCS; however, elaborate costumes are ‘discouraged’. No lifts, aerials or acrobatic moves. Drops are allowed in all divisions – please be careful. There are no movement limitations or restrictions for the All Stars/Champions Division.

TWO STEP JACK & JILL DIVISIONS: Saturday – CTST (2018 Country Two Step Tour) event.

Novice: Knowledge of basic skills, timing and rhythm, with basic core concepts recommended in pattern choices. Minimal or no prior competition experience is typical. Anyone who has never competed before, or has not earned any CTST points above the Novice level, must enter the Novice division (unless petitioning to a higher skill division). Novice level dancers must remain in the Novice Division until they have earned at least 15 Novice level points.

Intermediate: Knowledge of core concept ‘variations’, character and style, with partnership skills more refined than Novice level. Some competition experience is typical. Contestants that have been awarded at least 15 Novice level points must graduate from the Novice Division to the Intermediate Division. Intermediate level dancers must remain in the Intermediate Division until they have earned at least 30 Intermediate level points.

Advanced & All Stars Combined: Significant knowledge of core concept continuity performed “on the fly”, showing technique and presentation commensurate with highly skilled dancers. Seasoned competitors are typical here. Contestants that have been awarded at least 30 Intermediate level points must graduate from the Intermediate Division to the Advanced Division. Advanced level dancers must remain in the Advanced Division until they have earned at least 45 Advanced level points. Points accrued from placing in this division will be awarded at the ‘advanced’ division level.

WEST COAST SWING JACK & JILL DIVISIONS: Saturday and Sunday – WSDC points!

Sophisticated Division: 35 years of age and older, open division (not based on WSDC points), however, ‘current’ **Champions may not enter this division;** sophisticated may also enter in an “ability level” division and Masters division if ‘age’ qualified.

Masters Division: 50 years of age and older, open division (not based on WSDC points), however, ‘current’ **Champions may not enter this division;** masters can also enter in an “ability level” division and the Sophisticated Division.

“All In - High Low” Division: The “All In—High Low” Jack & Jill contest is an ‘open’ division for all skill levels which is commonly called “All American” at other events. **Contestants must be 12 years of age or older.** Format: an upper division dancer will be paired with a lower division dancer thereby leveling the playing field and giving everyone a fair chance at winning compared with the other method where two champions could draw each other and likely win.

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This was NOT fair in our estimation, and not the 'intent' of the contest. We want to offer the opportunity for lower division dancers to compete with upper division more advanced dancers, and for upper division dancers to compete equally with others who also draw a lower division partner. **Each partnership will consist of a contestant of Novice or Intermediate level (based on WSDC points), paired with one who is of the Advanced, All Stars or Professional level as determined by WSDC Points. The contest, in order to be as fair as possible, will be further divided by male and female.**

Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced Divisions: based upon ability level and points in the WSDC Points Registry. Competitors are encouraged to enter the appropriate ability division and not be inclined to enter a higher level than the division for which they truly qualify. Petitions for upward or downward movement will be available from Dani Canziani at Jack & Jill Registration.

All Stars & Champions (Combined): You must sign up and obtain a contest number to be worn when competing. We've officially combined these two divisions to make a more exciting contest as the 'grand finale' to the FreZno event on Sunday night! Combining these talented dancers makes for great competition in this 'big money' contest. You must qualify to be in this division by meeting minimum qualifications/points in All Stars, or **(2)** recent Champions points in the WSDC registry (within 5 years and over 20 accumulated Champion level points), or **(3)** are currently recognized as a current Division I Open or a Masters Division Competitor in UCWDC, or **(4)** an invited member of the FreZno event staff, or special invited guest.

All Jack & Jill Competitors are responsible for knowing your WSDC assigned competitor ID number and informed of WSDC rules. Please use your ID number when signing up for J&J contests at this event. Competitors should know what division they should be competing in but use the Points Registry for guidelines if you are unsure. The FreZno Dance Classic event allows you to Petition down or up (one level only). **For petitions—please see Dani Canziani.**

ALL OTHER CONTESTS — JUST DANCE TWO STEP; STRICTLY SWING; PRO AM TWO STEP; PRO AM NIGHT CLUB; PRO AM SWING

On-site 'contest' registration will be available—see sign-up times. All contestants are required to purchase either a full event pass, or the monetary equivalent of a Saturday and Sunday Pass to enter any contest (except Teams Cabaret—see Teams information).

VIDEO: There will 'not' be a professional service video company at FreZno, nor will we charge you for any kind of a video pass. You are welcome to bring your personal recording device—we only ask that you not interfere with others trying to view the competition. If this becomes a problem and we start receiving complaints—video privileges will be suspended. As a final result of this complimentary privilege—we hope to see your videos on facebook and youtube.

RULES: In all couple's contests, a couple shall be defined as one leader and one follower. Couples are gender neutral. Contestants may enter a division (age or ability level) only once, meaning that **no one can enter the same contest more than once** (like with different partners). The ability level in swing shall be determined by WSDC Points level, and in Two Step as determined by CTST Points. See specific contest division rules for more specifics.

JUST DANCE COUPLES CONTESTS: Strictly Swing, Two Step. Heated format danced to one, two, three or four songs (chosen at random) ranging from 1.25 minutes to full song in length. Depending on the size of the division, a preliminary, a semi-final, and a final round may be necessary. Upper divisions may be asked to "spotlight" as part of the final round of competition.

RULES: Gender neutral. Matching and coordinated outfits are encouraged although not required. Hats and/or boots are 'not' required for Two Step. No entrances, exits, lifts, aerials, or acrobatic moves except in Champions Division. Good "lead/follow" technique, teamwork, timing, as well as spontaneous and creative musical interpretation and showmanship will be rewarded. Dance teachers may not enter the novice division.

JUST DANCE TWO STEP COUPLES (Saturday morning) :

Divisions: competitors must be at least 16 years of age. Gender neutral.

Novice: dancers new to competition or who have not won 1st, 2nd, or 3rd – three or more times in the Intermediate Division of Two Step at any major contest.

Intermediate: dancers who have not won 1st, 2nd or 3rd— three or more times in any Advanced Division of Two Step at any major contest.

Advanced / Champions combined: Division I level UCWDC contestants, pros and advanced level social dancers.

STRICTLY SWING COUPLES DIVISIONS (Friday Night) :

All Divisions: competitors must be at least 16 years of age. Gender neutral. If one contestant in the partnership qualifies for the higher division—the couple must dance in the higher division. WSDC points should be a determining factor in divisional placement. Contestants entering the Sophisticated ‘age’ division may also enter an ability division but with a different partner.

Novice: contestants have not placed 1st more than 3 times in a novice division of any significant swing contest; neither has placed 1st through 3rd in any higher division in swing dance competition.

Intermediate: either partner has placed 1st more than once in a novice division in swing; and/or neither partner has placed 1st through 3rd in any advanced swing competition.

Sophisticated Division: minimum of 35 years of age—not divided into ability levels. Current Champion level dancers may not enter this ‘age’ division. If also entering an ability division – you must dance with a different partner.

Advanced: advanced level dancers, or, when either partner has placed 1st three times or more in any intermediate swing competition.

All Stars & Champions: A DiZzzney Costumed ‘themed’ contest. Saturday night. While this is a ‘dance’ contest – the entertainment value is important and is part of the judging criteria which relates to the costumes. Placements will be dropped two full placements if not in some recognizable DiZzzney attire. A key component of this contest is two solo dances in the final round. One song (1:45 minutes) will be chosen by the contest DJ. The second song is your ‘signature’ track (maximum of 2 minutes long and may utilize multiple songs), chosen by you (provided to the DJ ahead of time) to coordinate with your chosen DiZzzney characters. Swing content is ‘not’ required for this solo performance. Professional instructors, dancers who regularly dance in invitationals or champions; All Stars; an individual/couple who has won 1st place a minimum of five times in advanced division competition; or widely accepted as a ‘professional dancer’; or a UCWDC Division I Open, or a UCWDC Master’s Division competitor.

PRO AM TWO STEP / PRO AM NIGHT CLUB / PRO AM SWING (Sunday Morning):

Rules: The Pro Am partnership should represent a student (the amateur) who pays or has paid for the professional instruction services by the pro. A ‘pro’ is defined as a person who makes at least 10% of their annual income from dance instruction, or is in an ‘ongoing’ teacher/student dance relationship. Pro’s are limited to no more than 5 students per division. Gender specific or gender neutral partnerships are allowed in this contest (women may lead or follow men or women; men may lead or follow men or women). Music is 1.5—2.0 minutes in length, chosen at random. No entrances, exits, lifts, aerials or acrobatic moves allowed. Costumes are allowed. Judging will focus on the amateur’s performance and showmanship however the overall ‘partnership’ will also be evaluated. Swing division entry is based on WSDC points.

Jr. Division: under 18 years of age.

Newcomer Adult: contestants who have competed five times or less in major events and have not won a 1st place in a Newcomer or a 1st thru 3rd place in a Novice Division in the same dance.

Novice Adult: contestants who have not placed 1st more than 2 times in a novice division of any significant dance contest of the same dance and have not placed 1st through 3rd in any higher division competition of the same dance.

Intermediate Adult: contestants who have not placed 1st more than three times in Intermediate.

Master’s: contestants 50 years of age plus.

Due to too few entries in the Advanced Division in years past—this division will not be offered for Pro Am.

Awards for Pro Am Two Step, Swing, and Night Club — Certificates through 5th place only and may be picked up at our registration desk after 9 pm Sunday evening. All Pro Am contest results will be posted on Sunday evening by 7 pm. Only 1st Place Winners in each dance and division will be announced and presented on Monday Morning.

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UCWDC CONTESTS AND TEAMS AND TEAMS CABARET

Note: Teams who don't choose to compete or have a competition routine are warmly invited to perform during the teams session on Saturday.

TEAMS CABARET, Swing Dance Teams, UCWDC, Line Dance Teams Contest (Saturday) : Entry fee is \$50.00. For the 'open' teams division or Teams Cabaret as we call it – there is one division open to groups of 6 or more dancers dancing any dance or combination of dances to their own music selection of no more than 8 minutes. Props, lifts, drops and aerials will be allowed. No costume requirements. Judging will focus on showmanship, content, energy, precision, and entertainment value. Any **UCWDC Team** will compete here per UCWDC Rules and only compete against other UCWDC Teams. All teams should contact Steve Zener directly for specific contest entry information and registration at: steve@fresnodance.com All team members will be required to purchase at a minimum—a Saturday full-day pass.

All UCWDC Contestants please note: Competitions are on Friday. The FreZno Dance Classic is an officially sanctioned and qualifying event for the UCWDC Worlds 27 Championships event to be held in Nashville, TN in January, 2019. To be in compliance, every **UCWDC contestant** must have either a current 2018 Associate Membership, a 'one-time, one-event' membership for 2018, or a 'new and first time' 2018 membership, and provide that membership number on the contest registration form. Any Dance "**Team**" entering UCWDC competition must have a "Team" Associate Membership number to enter. See www.UCWDC.org for Associate Membership information. Please note that not all UCWDC Contests and Divisions will be offered at the event. Sorry, the following UCWDC contests will not be offered: Crown, Masters, and Super Stars. Please read through the contest information and registration forms carefully. **All UCWDC Awards will be presented on Sunday morning—see the tentative schedule for contest and awards times.**

UCWDC COUPLES & PRO AM Competition (Friday) : Pre-registration **required and must be received by May 18th for all divisions.** See contest entry form for entry fees. Please see 2018 UCWDC Rules which can be accessed via Internet at www.ucwdc.org for rules related questions. The most current music list will be utilized for all Showcase Divisions.

The 'Fine Print'.....remember what they say — you should always read it!

TIMES: Please refer to the event schedule for 'tentative' times of all contests. More definite times will be available in our final schedule posted to our web site May 22nd. Times are not likely to change more than 30 minutes either way from the tentative schedule, and we will continue to update our schedule as we approach the event date as changes are made. Please check the event schedule May 10th as times posted will be more accurate.

VIDEO: There will 'not' be a professional service video company at FreZno. Nor will we charge you for any kind of a video pass. You are welcome to bring your personal recording device—we only ask that you not interfere with others trying to view the competition. If this becomes a problem and we start receiving complaints—video privileges will be suspended. As a final result of this complimentary privilege—we hope to see your videos on facebook and youtube.

DRESSING ROOMS: Contestants will find dressing rooms, for both men and women, adjacent to the ballroom and near the bathrooms - furnished with clothing racks and mirrors – bring your own 'personal' accessories.

AWARDS: All UCWDC contest winners will receive a complimentary portrait photo, and one plaque with personalized certificates listing all dance placements. Awards ceremonies are on Sunday morning—see the event schedule for exact times. All contest winners who win prizes and awards who are not present at the awards ceremony will be responsible for shipping costs or having a designated person pick up their winnings at the ceremonies. We respectfully ask and encourage everyone to attend their awards ceremonies.

Good luck to everyone competing!

