BLACKPOOL DANCE FESTIVAL

RULES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PLEASE SEE WEB SITE FOR FURTHER UPDATES

PRESENTED BY BLACKPOOL TOURISM LTD, ON BEHALF OF BLACKPOOL COUNCIL

The event list is set by the organiser for any competition, including dances and age groupings. Events may consist of one dance and above.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE SYLLABUS FOR FESTIVAL CONCERNED

General Admission Tickets are required by all those entering the Ballroom, plus any Entry Fees (if applicable)

All issues regarding anti-doping, safeguarding, health and safety, public liability, risk assessments, BOPA license, Equity Rule, are carried out on behalf of the Blackpool Dance Festival by Blackpool Council – please see their web site - https://www.blackpool.gov.uk

For Couples Events – Please see syllabus concerned

For solo Events – Please see syllabus concerned

THE ORGANISER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO AMALGAMATE EVENTS IF NECESSARY

Syllabus Guidelines – All Events:

- Non-restricted syllabus: Open choreography.
- Restricted syllabus: See Syllabus page
- Juvenile Restricted Syllabus: See separate document on Blackpool Dance Festival website

These events will be clearly visible on all entry forms

- If a couple/dancer leave the floor before the end of the music in any dance the resulting mark must be at the discretion of each adjudicator.

- All couples/dancers which are dancing in one heat should not leave the floor for any reason from the commencement to the completion of that round unless for emergencies or medical reasons only.

Age Groups

Competitors must be within the stated age group on the day of the championship/competition – Proof of age must be available on request – either birth certificate or passport.

- Juvenile – under 12 years of age (couples - both under 12 years of age on the day of the competition)
- Under 10 years – under 10 years of age on the day of the competition. (couples - Both under 10 years of age on the day of the competition)
- Juniors – over 12 years of age and under 16 years of age (couples - both under 16 years of age on the day of the competition with one 12 and over)
- Under 14 years (12/13 years) must be 12 or 13 years on the day of the competition (couples - both competitors must be under 14 years of age on the day of the competition with one competitor 12/13 years.)
- Under 19 – Under 19 years of age but 16 and over years of age on the day of the competition (Couples - both competitors must be under 19 years of age on the day of the competition with one 16 years and over on the day of the competition)
- Under 21 - under 21 years of age on the day of the competition (Couples - both competitors must be under 21 years of age on the day of the competition with one 16 years and over on the day of the competition)
- Senior Over 35 – Over 35 years of age on the day of the competition - (Couples - Both competitors are to be over 35 years old on the day of the competition)
- Senior Over 50 – Over 50 years of age on the day of the competition - (Couples - both competitors are to be over 50 years old on the day of the competition)

The group in which a couple may dance shall be determined by the elder member of the partnership.

Dancers are not permitted to dance up an age group
Split partnerships are not permitted

Dangerous Movements

Any lifts (both feet off the floor), tail spins, high back kicks are considered dangerous movements and will not be allowed – the adjudicators may inform the chairperson of the day whose decision will be final.

Objection to compete

Any objection to a competitor's eligibility to take part in a competition or championship shall be considered unless the complainant informs the organiser in writing with a signature

and address attached. If there is not time to reach a decision before the event, the competitor complained about shall be permitted to dance in the competition or championship on the understanding that any prize they may win shall be withheld until the outcome is known

The tempi for the Ballroom dances are:

Bars per minute:
Waltz 28-30
Tango 32-34
Foxtrot 28-30
Quickstep 48-50
Viennese Waltz 56-60

The tempi for the Latin dances are:

Bars per minute:
Cha Cha Cha 28-30
Samba 50-52
Rumba 25-27
Paso Doble 56-60
Jive 42-44

Costume requirements – All Events

- Adult Competitions: no restrictions.
- Junior Competitions: no restrictions
- Juvenile Competitions: See separate Juvenile Dress rules

In any competition the Chairpersons Interpretation of the outfit regulations is final and binding

Role changing (Couples only)

Each competition and dance within that must be completed in the same role. No role changing is permitted mid dance.

Exemptions

Exemptions granted only apply to the same partnership as existed in the aforesaid event and not to the competitors individually.

Closed Championships/ Competitions

All competitors wishing to enter the British National (Closed) Championships / competitions must hold a valid competitor licence as stated within the Blackpool Dance Festival rules.

To qualify into the Closed championships/ competitions, one dancer must qualify by Birth, British Passport or British Citizenship.

To qualify into a Closed Area Championship, for example Amateur North of England Ballroom (in addition to the above) one dancer must qualify by birth or residence (12 months immediately prior to the final).

Show Dance

The dances shall be selected from the following: Ballroom - Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot, Quickstep and Viennese Waltz. Latin – Cha Cha Cha, Samba, Rumba, Paso Doble and Jive. In this event the couple may select from one up to all the five dances in the chosen genre.

Dancers must show the same show and choreography throughout the rehearsal and the competition

The Time of the show music must be up to a maximum of 4 minutes. The time limit must not be exceeded under any circumstances. The time limit is to include walk on and exit from the floor. Exceeding the time limit leads to direct disqualification.

Three lifts are permitted for the whole performance. These can be performed anywhere in the show.

No props are permitted during entrance, performance and exit. Please note that, for the purposes of this rule, a “prop” is defined as any item that is not part of the couple’s costume. Therefore, no item may be discarded by the couple at any time.

Marks – The normal system of marking will be applied (In the final the adjudicators will place the couples in the order of merit).

Formation: See separate document

The organisers will not accept any responsibility if too many events are entered resulting in some running back-to-back

Anyone competing or spectating (any event) do so at their own risk. The venue will not accept responsibility for any existing health issues/allergies, injury or situation

No competitor may enter a competition if a member of their immediate family or any member of the same household is on the adjudicating panel that day.
Immediate family members are defined as spouse, ex-spouse, de facto spouse, child or stepchild (whether natural or by adoption), parent, stepparent, grandparent, step-grandparent, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister or first cousin.

The status of competitors when they participate in events will be regulated by the rules and syllabus herewith.

Adjudicators, Officials and competitors will all be in possession of a valid licence from any country they reside in or organisation/ association that issues the necessary licenses.

Should any adjudicator suffer illness we reserve the right to replace at any time.

The aggregate votes of the adjudicators in the early rounds and the individual placings of each adjudicator in the final rounds will be available on the official Blackpool Dance Festival website.

These rules will be updated for each festival.

Filming/ Photography and Live streaming

The Blackpool Dance Festival appoints authorised partners to provide official photography, filming and live streaming of the Festival. The Official Event Coverage forms an important part of the Festival's commercial partnerships and contributes directly to the continued presentation and development of the Blackpool Dance Festival.

Competitors and spectators are welcome to take photographs and record 20 second short video clips for their own personal, private and non-commercial use, provided this does not interfere with the competition, fellow competitors, spectators or the Festival's Official Event Coverage.

To protect the integrity and commercial value of the Festival's Official Event Coverage, the following activities are prohibited without the prior written consent of the Organiser:

- Live streaming or any real-time transmission of competitions or performances by any means.
- Recording, transmitting or distributing substantial, continuous or systematic coverage of any competition or performance.
- Recording, broadcasting or distributing content for commercial purposes or on behalf of any third party.

- Any filming, recording or transmission which, in the reasonable opinion of the Organiser, conflicts with, reproduces or undermines the Festival's Official Event Coverage.

The Organiser reserves the right to require any unauthorised filming, recording or transmission to cease immediately and may require the removal of any content published in breach of these Rules where reasonably practicable. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in the individual being required to leave the venue without refund and, where applicable, the withdrawal of any media accreditation.

Nothing within these Rules prevents the Organiser, its appointed contractors or authorised media partners from undertaking official photography, filming, live streaming or broadcasting for promotional, archival or commercial purposes.

By entering or attending the Blackpool Dance Festival, all competitors and spectators acknowledge and agree to comply with these Rules.

Refunds

There will be no refunds on admission/seat tickets or entry fees due to non-attendance. Entry fee refunds maybe considered on request (subject to an administration fee) and on proof of medical certificate no later than 48 hours after the completion of the event.

Complaints

Any complaints will only be considered up to 48 hours after the completion of the said event to the organiser on the day via the email of the event - this must be signed, dated with address to be considered.

The decision of the organiser - is final on all matters

The above applies to all events