

# NATD

## National Association of Teachers of Dancing

### NATD's MEDALLIST OF THE YEAR COMPETITION RULES – Version 1.2 (21/04/2021)

#### Using the following Books

##### Ballroom

National Association Teachers of Dance  
(Blue Folder 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition - 2020)

##### Latin American

Imperial Society Teachers of Dance  
Red Books 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

(Last Amendment - ChaChaCha – 2003, Samba – 2002, Rumba – 1998,  
Paso Doble – 1999, Jive – 2002)



**EFFECTIVE FROM 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**

National Association of Teachers of Dancing

Turnfields Court

Turnfields

THATCHAM, Berkshire, RG19 4PT

Web: [www.natd.org.uk](http://www.natd.org.uk)

Tel: +44 (0)1635 868888/226889 Email: [info@natd.org.uk](mailto:info@natd.org.uk)

# NATD

National Association of Teachers of Dancing

## MEDALLIST OF THE YEAR GRAND FINALS

### FOREWORD

The NATD are very proud of their Grand Finals Competition and take great pride in the fact that this is a competition for students who take their dancing medals and awards with this great association.

The NATD thank all competitors together with their teachers who have taken great care in training their pupils to a very high standard so that they can qualify and take part in this event. The NATD are keen to stress that this is not a Pro – Am event and that only the person with the number card on their back is the one that is being judged.

The NATD has a very robust syllabus for all teachers and their pupils to follow as they prepare for this event. The Committee are keen that all dancers dance within the competition rules and also within the criteria that is laid down in the syllabus. To allow for freedom of expression and movement the NATD Medallist of the Year Committee are for the first time relaxing the rules so that competitors can dance more freely with greater style and innovative armography. This does not mean that they can dance out of syllabus for their grade, and at all times must comply with the correct precedes and follows for each chosen figure at the grade at which they are dancing.

As part of the relaxation, the maximum allowed to be danced in the Latin American dances without hold is 5 bars, it will also be permissible to commence dance with a no hold section, as per Appendix 1 (Latin) in the current BDC Rule Book.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Page', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Kevin Page  
Chief Executive Officer

## 1) ENTRY CONDITIONS:

a. All competitors **MUST** be NATD Medallists and have taken a full respective Ballroom and Latin medal examination during the 12 months prior to the Grand Finals.

- i. Qualifying Exam 12 month period = 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June
- ii. One dance examinations are “NOT” considered to be a full medal.
- iii. Annual Performance Awards are “NOT” considered to be a full medal unless medals above Gold have been achieved.

b. Competitors may dance in non-medallist competitions at Beginner, Novice, Intermediate, Pre-Championship or All Girl levels, either solo or as a couple, without it effecting their Medallist status providing they:

- i. Have not made the top 12 or Semi-Final in a Juvenile, Junior, Youth or Amateur Championship Competition in the last 12 months.
- ii. Are not registered as Championship competitors with the BDC, DPA or any governing body of dance.
- iii. Competitors making Semi-Final or Final rounds in online competitions between 2020 – 2021 will be exempt from the above rule (1b).

Please note that “Best of British, Champions of Tomorrow, Stars of the Future and Social/Invitational Competitions” are not Championship competitions. Details of Championships can be found in the “British Dance Council (BDC) Rule Book 2018 – Page 15”.

c. Anyone who has lost their amateur status **“WILL NOT”** be permitted to enter/compete in any NATD Medallist of the Year Events. Please see the “British Dance Council (BDC) Rule Book 2018 – Rule 18”.

### **British Dance Council (BDC) Rule Book 2018.**

#### **18. Loss of Amateur Status.**

(a) A competitor’s amateur status will be deemed lost if:

- i. *Accepts remuneration in cash for the use of their name as a dancer in an advertisement.*
- ii. *Declares themselves to be a professional.*
- iii. *Passes a teaching entrance examination of any of the ballroom branches of an examining teacher organisation.*
- iv. *Acts as a teacher of dancing, with or without a fee, unless under the supervision of a qualified professional.*
- v. *Organises dances for personal profit.*
- vi. *Participates in a competition or match limited to professionals.*
- vii. *Acts as an MC for the purpose of leading dances or calling sets.*
- viii. *Adjudicates at a dancing competition.*

d. Competitors must dance in the competition that represents the highest grade they have achieved with the NATD, or any other association in their age section. In the event of a Juvenile having progressed to Junior, or a Junior having progressed to Under 25, the competitor must enter any appropriate Ex-Juvenile or Ex-Junior event should this be available.

- i. If further NATD examinations are taken after qualifying but before the Grand Final, the competitor **MUST** continue to dance in the Grade they originally qualified in up to and including the Grand Final.

e. **A Juvenile becomes a Junior on his/her twelfth birthday. A Junior becomes an Adult on his/her sixteenth birthday.**

- i. If after qualifying (In Ballroom or Latin) but before further qualifiers/Grand Final, the competitor has a birthday which takes them into an older age group, they **MUST** dance in the original age group they qualified in up to and including the Grand Final – **For both Ballroom & Latin.**

*Example: Qualified April in Juvenile Ballroom but turned 12 by Latin Qualifier, they will need to compete as a Juvenile for the Latin qualifiers and for all future qualifiers including the Grand Finals.*

f. **Children may dance in the Rainbow Sections for as many years as they wish until they reach their 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday. There will be two sections:**

- i. Under 6 Years
- ii. Under 8 Years
- iii. If after qualifying as a Rainbow the child has an 8<sup>th</sup> birthday, they **MUST** continue to dance in that section up to and including the Grand Final.

g. **Competitors may dance in any Medal Grade up to and including Pre-Bronze for a maximum of two consecutive years.**

- i. Pre-Bronze 8 & 9, after 2 years to move up a grade to BRONZE
- ii. Pre-Bronze 10 & 11, after 2 years to move up a grade to BRONZE
- iii. Winners at the Medallist of the Year Grand Finals of the Pre-Bronze 8 & 9 or 10 & 11 section will be required to move into the next grade BRONZE before the next years qualifiers. Not relevant if less than 6 finalists [RULE 2a].

h. **Changing Age Groups**

**Juvenile to Junior: 12 – 15 Years**

- i. A Juvenile who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Bronze may start from Step 1.
- ii. A Juvenile who has taken Bronze medals or higher may start from Step 2.
  1. Junior Pre-Bronze
  2. Junior Bronze (Ex-Juvenile if available)
  3. Junior Silver (Ex-Juvenile if available)
  4. Junior Gold
  5. Junior Up to & Including Gold Bar
  6. Junior Awards

**Junior to Under 25: 16 – 24 Years**

- iii. A Junior who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Bronze may start from Step 1.
- iv. A Junior who has taken Bronze medals or higher may start from Step 2.
  1. Under 25 Pre-Bronze
  2. Under 25 Bronze (Ex-Junior if available)
  3. Under 25 Silver (Ex-Junior if available)
  4. Under 25 Gold
  5. Under 25 Up to & Including Gold Bar
  6. Under 25 Awards

#### **Under 25 to Under 35: 25 – 34 Years**

- v. An Under 25 who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Bronze may start from Step 1.
- vi. An Under 25 who has taken Bronze medals or higher must continue at the same level or above.
  - 1. Under 35 Pre-Bronze
  - 2. Under 35 Bronze
  - 3. Under 35 Silver
  - 4. Under 35 Gold
  - 5. Under 35 Up to & Including Gold Bar
  - 6. Under 35 Awards

#### **Under 35 to Over 35: 35 – 49 Years**

- vii. An Under 35 who has taken medals up to but **NOT** including Bronze may start from Step 1.
- viii. An Under 35 who has taken Bronze medals or higher must continue at the same level or above.
  - 1. Over 35 Pre-Bronze
  - 2. Over 35 Bronze
  - 3. Over 35 Silver
  - 4. Over 35 Gold
  - 5. Over 35 Up to & Including Gold Bar
  - 6. Over 35 Awards

#### **Over 35 to Over 50: 50 – 59 Years**

- ix. An Over 35 who has only taken up to but **NOT** including Bronze to start at Step 1.
- x. An Over 35 who has taken Bronze medals or higher must continue at the same level or above.
  - 1. Over 50 Pre-Bronze
  - 2. Over 50 Bronze
  - 3. Over 50 Silver
  - 4. Over 50 Gold
  - 5. Over 50 Up to & Including Gold Bar
  - 6. Over 50 Awards

#### **Over 60: 60 Years & Above**

- xi. Over 60's can continue their Medal path as per the Over 50's Graded Sections.
- xii. At the Medallist of the Year Qualifiers competitors can choose to qualify in their relevant Grade for the Over 50s section or Dance in the Over 60's section which is all Grades and Gentlemen/Ladies together.

#### **i. Changing Schools:**

- i. If after qualifying a pupil changes school, they will be required to take exams with the new school and to re-qualify under that schools' name.
- ii. There may be some exceptions, but these would require the agreement of both Principals of the schools involved.

## 2) PREVIOUS WINNERS:

- a) All previous winners (1<sup>st</sup> place only) of the Medallist of the Year Grand Final Event (this “EXCLUDES” the 2021 Festival of Dance Blackpool Event) - PSDT, Pre-Bronze, Bronze, Silver, and Gold levels are not permitted to enter the same event again and will be required to move to the next Grade after the Grand Finals of that year and before the Qualifying events for the following year.
- b) If the Grand Final has less than 6 competitors, then the above ruling does not apply.

## 3) MEDALLIST COMPETITION DRESS:

- a) Juvenile: All Juvenile competitions must comply with British Dance Council (BDC) **Rule 54**.
  - i) Girls – Appendix A
  - ii) Boys – Appendix B
- b) Junior and Adult age groups have no restrictions apart from Tail Suits which are not permitted.

## 4) SYLLABUS RESTRICTIONS: SOLOS

- a) **Pre-Bronze & Bronze** – Restricted to those figures up to and including Bronze (Associate) Syllabus
  - i) Only using Precedes & Follows up to Bronze Level
- b) **Silver** – Restricted to those figures up to and including the Silver (Licentiate) Syllabus
  - i) Only using Precedes & Follows up to Silver Level
- c) **Gold** – Restricted to those figures up to and including the Gold (Fellowship) Syllabus
- d) **Above Gold** – Juveniles restricted to those figures up to an including Gold (Fellowship) Juniors & Adults, Unrestricted.

## 5) SYLLABUS RESTRICTIONS: COUPLES

- a) **All Pre-Bronze & Bronze** - Restricted to those figures up to and including Gold (Fellowship)
- b) **All Juvenile** - Restricted to those figures up to and including Gold (Fellowship)
- c) **Junior & Adult** - Silver, Gold & Above Gold will be Unrestricted.

## 6) STYLING – ARMOGRAPHY: SOLOS & COUPLES

The NATD has a very robust syllabus for all teachers and their pupils to follow as they prepare for this event. The Committee are keen that all dancers dance within the competition rules and also within the criteria that is laid down in the syllabus. To allow for freedom of expression and movement the NATD Medallist of the Year Committee are for the first time relaxing the rules so that competitors can dance more freely with greater style and innovative armography. This does not mean that they can dance out of syllabus for their grade, and at all times must comply with the correct precedes and follows for each chosen figure at the grade at which they are dancing.

As part of the relaxation, the maximum allowed to be danced in the Latin American dances without hold is 5 bars, it will also be permissible to commence dance with a no hold section, as per Appendix 1 (Latin) in the current BDC Rule Book.

## 7) PARTNERING SOLO EVENTS:

- a) Competitors can be partnered by an Amateur or a Professional partner.
- b) Partnering with more than one person in an event is at the discretion of the organiser.
- c) Only **ONE CHANGE** will be permitted per heat.

## 8) PARTNERING COUPLES EVENTS:

- a) Partner changes will only be allowed with prior consent of the organisers where at least one dancer would otherwise be unable to enter any of the competitions.
- b) Under **NO** circumstances will a dancer be allowed to dance in different sections of the competition with different partners (excluding option a).  
Example: A girl dancing with a Boy in the Boy/Girl section cannot then dance with a girl in the All Girl section.
- c) Couples age and grade will be as the individuals were when they Qualified as Solos, up to and including the relevant years Grand Final. Applicable to all age groups – Rainbows, Juveniles, Juniors & Adults.

## 9) JUVENILE COUPLES:

- a) Both **MUST** be Juvenile.
- b) Both must hold current NATD Medals.
- c) They dance in the age group of the **ELDEST**.
- d) They dance in the **HIGHEST GRADE** of the **COUPLE**.
- e) A Juvenile can dance with a Junior to accommodate a partnership. This will not affect their status as a Juvenile, in their own competition.

## 10) JUNIOR COUPLES:

- a) Both **MUST** be Under 16.
- b) Both must hold current NATD Medals.
- c) They dance in the age group of the **ELDEST**.
- d) They dance in the **HIGHEST GRADE** of the **COUPLE**.
- e) A Junior can dance with an Adult to accommodate a partnership. This will not affect their status as a Junior, in their own competition.

## 11) ADULT – COUPLES:

- a) Both must hold current NATD Medals.
- b) They must dance in the age group of the **YOUNGEST**.
- c) They dance in the **HIGHEST GRADE** of the **COUPLE**.

## 12) Trophies & Awards:

- a) An Award will be presented to all finalists of each of the Medallist Events.

## APPENDIX A

### IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 1ST JANUARY 2019

#### JUVENILE DRESS (GIRLS)

British Dance Council Rule 54  
Ballroom, Latin & Sequence

(Illustrations of dresses are available on the British Dance Council website  
([www.bdconline.org](http://www.bdconline.org) – Publications & Leaflets, Rules, Juveniles))

**Sponsorship Logos:** three sponsor logos are permitted per couple and must not exceed 40 square cms.

**Hairstyle** and make-up to be appropriate for the child's age.

**Hair Decoration:** Small flower or bow (Maximum 8cms in width and without rhinestones, glitter or any other decoration and not made from shiny material) only permitted in the hair. No other decoration is permitted in the hair including glitter spray and rhinestones.

**Jewellery** of a personal/religious nature may only be worn. Earrings are to be kept simple and small

**Armbands,** Headbands, Neckbands and Gloves in material are **NOT** permitted.

**Shoes:** Block heel only with a maximum height of 3.5 cm. White ankle socks must be worn.

**Materials** from the roll with no additional decorations such as lace motifs, rhinestones, sequins or ruching. Bodice and Skirt to be of the same self-colour (dye match). No cut outs with one hem length all the way round. Godets are **NOT** permitted.

**Bodice and Skirt** to be of the same self-colour (dye match). No cut outs with one hem length all the way round. Godets are not permitted.

**Bodice** to be of one material only and to be fully lined up to and including the shoulder seams. See through materials must be fully lined Bodice length to be waistline or hipline.

**Skirt** to be of one material.

**Panelling** must be the full length of the dress. Up to two under skirts permitted and must be non-see through material.

Crinoline or wire are permitted inside hem of top skirt. Crinoline may not be exposed on the bottom of the skirt. Satin ribbon may be used on hems. Hems to be no more than 8cms in depth. A Sash/Belt is permitted on skirt waist but no wider than 5cms to cover the join. Bow with tails to be no bigger than 5cms and may only be used as a fastening. Buttons and sashes for fastening purposes only. Waistband to be no wider than 5cms. A Sash/Belt on a dress can have a back fastening but must be an integral part of the dress.

**Neck Lines** Neck lines and Keyhole back not lower than top of armpit/underarm. One frill up to 7.5cm in depth or simple collar.

**Skirt/Dress Length** - Permitted from knee level to 5cms above ankle sock. These are to be representative of the genre danced. Sleeves – Long, Short, Elbow Length, Short Puff, Cap – No frills and Dolman

**Sleeves** – Long, Short, Elbow Length, Short Puff, Cap – No frills and Dolman



## APPENDIX B

### IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 1ST JANUARY 2019

#### JUVENILE DRESS (BOYS)

British Dance Council Rule 54  
Ballroom, Latin & Sequence

(Illustrations of dresses are available on the British Dance Council website  
([www.bdconline.org](http://www.bdconline.org) – Publications & Leaflets, Rules, Juveniles))

<b>Trousers</b>	Block black material only (velvet/velour not permitted) Normal or high waisted with optional underfoot strap. Black Satin ONLY permitted in stripes and waistbands. Black Satin not permitted in yoke or pocket.
<b>Shirts</b>	White long sleeved (not rolled up and with no additional detail) and must be tucked into trousers. No wing collars or shiny material. Cufflinks permitted
<b>Ties:</b>	Black regular tie (no initials permitted) for Ballroom Black Bow tie for Latin
<b>Belts</b>	Plain black belt either of leather or similar material with small buckle
<b>Socks</b>	Black
<b>Shoes</b>	Black to be made either of leather, Nubuck or Patent materials