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## SECTION A: COMPETITOR REGISTRATION

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1. All competitors must be 18 years or over. Competitors under 18 may apply to the Event Director for an exception and if accepted will be asked to provide written consent from their parent/guardian and must have a parent/guardian present at the competition venue with them at all times.
2. All entries must be submitted at [danceconvention.net](https://danceconvention.net)
3. To be fair to competitors working on choreography, all **ALL ROUTINE ENTRIES & ROUTINE MUSIC SELECTIONS** must be submitted by **Friday 1st May 2026** to confirm whether there are enough entries for these categories to go ahead.
4. The closing date for all other categories is **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026**.
5. Spaces are limited and some categories may fill before the closing date, so please enter and pay EARLY to avoid disappointment. A spot in the competition is only secured when full payment has been received.
6. Full payment is required by the general closing date above, with the exception of ⚡ **Early Lightning Deals** ⚡ for which payment is required by **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026**.
7. **There will be no refund for competitors who withdraw after the closing date of Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026.**

## SECTION B: MINIMUM NUMBERS

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1. In general, all categories require a **minimum of 5 entries** to go ahead as a competitive event.
2. If only **4 or 3 entries** are received, the category *might* go ahead, with only a Gold Medal awarded (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place will not be awarded). Alternatively, point 3 below might apply.
3. If only **2 or 1 entries** are received, the category will not go ahead as a competitive event, and *might* be merged with other levels (Freestyle & DWAS), or invited to perform non competitively (Routine categories).

## SECTION C: COMPETITION CATEGORIES

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The following competition CATEGORIES are on offer at this year's event:

1. \*Dance With A Stranger (DWAS) – Open Age
2. \*Freestyle – Open Age
3. Dance With A Stranger (DWAS) – Over 50s
4. Freestyle – Over 50s
5. Pro Am Freestyle
6. Pro Am Showcase
7. Showcase
8. Teams
9. 2026 Bonus Fun Category: Steals

\* Open Age Freestyle and Open Age DWAS both attract points for progression under the AMJR framework (see next section)

## SECTION D: COMPETITION LEVELS

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### Australian Modern Jive Registry (AMJR)

This event is proudly affiliated with the Australian Modern Jive Registry (AMJR). Competitors should refer to the **AMJR Framework** to determine their level, and to the **AMJR Points Registry** to track their points for progression through the levels. Any enquiries regarding missing or incorrect points must be directed to AMJR.

First time competitors and competitors who have not yet placed in an AMJR affiliated event, will not yet be on the Registry as they will not yet have attracted points. The AMJR Framework document will however still apply to determine their level.

The **AMJR Framework document** can be found at [this link](#)

The **AMJR Points Registry** can be found at [this link](#)

Dancers at this event will compete at one or more of the following LEVELS in line with the AMJR Framework:

1. Beginner
2. Intermediate
3. Intermediate Plus
4. Advanced
5. Champions

### Competing at Multiple Levels

In line with the [AMJR Framework](#), dancers might compete at more than one level, for one or more of the following reasons:

1. **DIFFERENT FREESTYLE/DWAS ELIGIBILITY:** They are eligible for a certain level for DWAS, but not for Freestyle (or vice versa).
2. **DIFFERENT LEADER/FOLLOWER ROLE ELIGIBILITY:** They are dancing their non-primary role at another level (eg they are eligible to dance as a **Leader** at Advanced level and also as a **Follower** at Intermediate Plus level).
3. **'OPTING UP':** They are eligible to OPT to dance in a higher level in Freestyle/DWAS (subject to AMJR requirements in the 'Optional Progression' specifications for each level).
4. **'DANCING UP'** They are dancing one level higher than their eligible level in Freestyle due to *their partner's* higher Freestyle level (permitted no more than one level apart, and not permitted to also dance at their actual eligible level in the same role).

### 'Dancing Up'

Competitors **DANCING UP** in Freestyle due to their partner's level, will still have their ACTUAL level considered for qualification for other categories such as Pro Am and Over 50s.

- **Example 1:** A competitor qualifying for Beginner or Intermediate who DANCES UP to Intermediate Plus Freestyle because that's their partner's level, is still permitted to enter Pro Am Freestyle (as the Am).
- **Example 2:** A competitor qualifying for Intermediate Plus who DANCES UP to Advanced Freestyle because that's their partner's level, is still permitted to enter Intermediate Plus Over 50s Freestyle (provided they are eligible for Over 50s).

### AMJR Optional Progression – 'Opting Up'

Under the AMJR Framework, competitors *may* have the OPTION to dance one level higher than their actual level in DWAS and/or Freestyle, based on the following:

1. **At Intermediate Plus level & above** – they've achieved the number of points specified as allowing 'Optional Progression', but not yet enough points for 'Mandatory Progression'.
2. **At Beginner & Intermediate level** – they are considered to have the skills/experience that deems them more suited to a higher (non-timebased) level.

**IMPORTANT:** Competitors **OPTING UP**, or eligible to opt up, will have *that* level considered for all other parts of the competition.

- **Example 1:** A competitor has under 2 or 1 years of Modern Jive experience, but OPTS to dance up to Intermediate Plus (Freestyle and/or DWAS). They then become ineligible to enter Pro Am Freestyle (due to maximum Intermediate

requirement). **Note:** Exception *might* be granted if insufficient entries caused them to Opt Up.

- **Example 2:** An Intermediate Plus Freestyle competitor has the required number of points for 'Optional Progression' to Advanced Freestyle. **Regardless of whether or not they actually take that option**, this deems them ineligible for Intermediate Plus Over 50s Freestyle (due to maximum Intermediate Plus requirement).
- **Example 3:** An Intermediate Plus competitor has the required number of points for 'Optional Progression' to Advanced (Freestyle or/and DWAS). **Regardless of whether or not they actually take that option**, this deems them ineligible for Pro Am Showcase *as the Am* (due to maximum Intermediate Plus requirement), however they *might* be eligible to enter Pro Am Showcase *as the Pro*, due to minimum Advanced (in both DWAS and Freestyle) or Teacher status, subject to the Pro Am Showcase rules in **Section G** of this document.

**IMPORTANT:** Remember that points are considered separately for a competitor's Leader / Follower role choice, which adds a complexity to the above. If in doubt, please email [julie@ceroc.com.au](mailto:julie@ceroc.com.au) for clarification.

**NOTE:** As categories such as Pro Am and Over 50s are not under the framework of AMJR, the above impacts of Optional Progression may differ at other events. Please always check the event specific rules documents.

## Petitioning Up/Down

Please note that 'Dancing Up' and 'Opting Up' are different to "Petitioning Up". Petitioning is a process overseen by AMJR whereby competitors (or their teachers) can apply for their AMJR level/s to be amended up or down.

## SECTION E: LEADER & FOLLOWER ROLES

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1. Any competitor may compete in the role of Leader or/and Follower, subject to the rules in the [AMJR Framework](#).
2. Competitors **must not swap roles during the same dance** in any category apart from choreographed routine categories.
3. **Qualification rules apply to the specific role.** For example a competitor who has qualified for Advanced as a *Follower* does not automatically qualify for Advanced as a *Leader* – they must 'earn their stripes' by competing at Intermediate Plus as a Leader, to qualify upwards in the usual way. Please see the [AMJR Framework](#) document for details.
4. **Time Based rules apply to the competitor not the role.** For example a competitor who has been dancing as a Follower for 10 years, and started to learn the Leader role less than one year ago, will NOT qualify for the Beginner Category. In general, all competitors who have been dancing for more than 2 years must start at minimum Intermediate Plus.

## SECTION F: COMPETITION MUSIC

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1. Music for all categories (except choreographed routine categories) will be provided by the Event Director and will have a time signature applicable to Modern Jive.
2. Music provided by the Event Director will have **no explicit lyrics**, and any music provided by competitors for Showcases, Teams and in some cases Champions spotlights is required to be the same.
3. While we take every care to ensure all music is fit for the general public, we can take no responsibility for songs with hidden meanings or implications *perceived* as offensive by any individual.

## SECTION G: RULES, ELIGIBILITY & POINTS

### Freestyle & DWAS (Open Age)

Rules and eligibility for Freestyle (Open Age) and DWAS (Open Age) are set by the Australian Modern Jive Registry (AMJR).

Points will be awarded in line with the system laid out in the [AMJR Framework document](#).

Points will not apply to any other category, and rules for non AMJR categories may differ at other events. Please read below for rules and eligibility specific to this event.

<b>OVER 50s</b>	<p><b>- Over 50s Freestyle</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Intermediate Plus dancers over 50 years young may enter this category <b>AS WELL AS</b> the Intermediate Plus (Open Age) category, however <u>not with the same partner</u>.</li><li>2. BOTH halves of the partnership must be over 50 years young.</li><li>3. Partnerships where BOTH dancers are below Intermediate Plus level may NOT enter Over 50s.</li></ol> <p><b>- Over 50s DWAS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Intermediate Plus dancers over 50 years young may choose to enter <b>EITHER</b> Over 50s DWAS, <b>OR</b> Intermediate Plus (Open Age) DWAS.</li></ol>
<p>NOTE: There is no progression beyond this level. Competitors who place may continue entering this category an unlimited number of times in future competitions, provided they have not progressed beyond Intermediate Plus level in Freestyle/DWAS.</p>	

<b>BONUS FUN CATEGORY</b>	<p><b>- Steals</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Steals is <b>one follower with two leaders</b>, each taking turns to 'steal' the follower during the dance.</li><li>2. The follower must dance for the entire dance, and at any one time only two people will be connected (apart from at the actual moment of stealing).</li><li>3. There is no minimum/maximum number of times the follower must be 'stolen', all we ask is that the transitions are seamless, smooth and safe 😊</li><li>4. This category is open to ALL levels, with a recommendation of minimum Intermediate Plus.</li></ol>
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<b>SHOWCASE &amp; TEAMS</b>	<p><b>- Showcase</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A <b>SHOWCASE</b> is <b>two dancers</b> of <b>minimum Intermediate Plus</b> level, dancing a set piece of Modern Jive choreography to their chosen music (minimum <b>2.5 mins</b>, maximum <b>4 mins</b>).</li><li>2. Entries from partnerships below Intermediate Plus are subject to approval by the Event Director.</li><li>3. Showcase choreographers must also read <b>SECTION K: Important Information for Routine Entries</b>.</li></ol> <p><b>- Teams</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A <b>TEAM</b> is a synchronised group of <b>minimum 3 couples</b> of any level, dancing a set piece of Modern Jive choreography to their chosen music (minimum <b>2.5 mins</b>, maximum <b>4 mins</b>).</li><li>2. There is no official maximum number of couples, however due to floor size we recommend no more than <b>10</b>. Teams of all sizes take their own responsibility for safely fitting within the dance floor area.</li><li>3. Triples/Steals dancing is permitted as a small component of a Team routine, however a specific Triples/Steals routine is not permitted.</li><li>4. Team choreographers must also read <b>SECTION K: Important Information for Routine Entries</b>.</li></ol>
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## PRO AM

### - Pro Am Freestyle

1. The 'Pro' half of the partnership must be either a **Modern Jive Teacher**, or a competitor qualified for **minimum Advanced** (DWAS and/or Freestyle) level.
2. The 'Am' half of the partnership must qualify for **Beginner or Intermediate** level.
3. Note: Ams 'dancing up' to Intermediate Plus Freestyle based on their freestyle partner's level ARE still permitted to enter Pro Am Freestyle (provided they actually qualify for maximum Intermediate). Ams 'opting up' to Intermediate Plus in either Freestyle/DWAS are NOT permitted to enter Pro Am Freestyle. See **Section D** for definitions of Dancing Up and Opting Up.
4. A **Pro Am Freestyle** partnership must not be competing together in any other category\* of this competition or have competed together in any previous Modern Jive competition. Exception can be made for Interstate/International Competitors, provided they have not placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> together.
5. Partnerships are judged as a couple however with the focus on the ability of the Am.
6. **CLARIFICATION ADDED: Ams** may dance only in ONE of either Pro Am Follower or Pro Am Leader. **Pros** may dance in BOTH Pro Am Follower and Pro Am Leader (based on the much higher number of Ams than Pros usually available).

### - Pro Am Showcase

1. A **Pro Am Showcase** is two competitors dancing a set piece of Modern Jive choreography to their chosen music (**minimum 1 minute, maximum 1.5 minutes**).
2. The 'Pro' half of the partnership must be either a **Modern Jive Teacher of any level**, or a **competitor qualified for Advanced** level or above (in both DWAS and Freestyle)
3. The 'Am' half of the partnership must be eligible for **maximum Intermediate Plus** level.
4. In the spirit of mentoring, a Pro is not permitted to partner with an Am who qualifies for the same competition level as them. A teacher who qualifies for Intermediate Plus may therefore be the Pro half of a Pro Am Showcase with a Beginner or Intermediate competitor only. **Important Note:** For the Pro, this also applies if an Intermediate Plus teacher has enough points for 'Optional Progression' to Advanced, but chooses to stay in Intermediate Plus at this event. Two Intermediate Plus competitors is NOT a Pro Am combination. See **Section D** for the definition of Optional Progression.
5. A **Pro Am Showcase** partnership must not be competing together in any other category\* of this competition, however may have competed together at a prior event.
6. Partnerships are judged as a couple however with the focus on the ability of the Am.
7. Routines must be choreographed specifically for a Pro Am Showcase competition and be in the spirit of mentoring. It is not permitted to use a routine that has been adapted from an existing Showcase or Team routine, or which has **wholly** been choreographed by someone outside of the partnership. Application to the Event Director may be made for an exception.
8. **Ams** may only enter **EITHER** Pro Am Showcase **OR** the general Showcase category, with one routine only.
9. **Pros** may enter in **BOTH** Pro Am Showcase **AND** general Showcase, with more than one routine in both.
10. Students should be aware that if the Pro is a teacher and/or experienced choreographer, they may charge private lesson rates for all or part of their time. **Both halves of the partnership should discuss this and be clear on any financial expectations before choreography commences.**
11. Pro Am Showcase choreographers must also read **SECTION K: Important Information for Routine Entries**

\* For the purpose of the above rules, dancing in a Team with partner swaps where the couple dance together for a portion of the routine is not considered applicable. Dancing in the annual 'Fun' category (eg Steals, Triples etc) is also permitted.

## AERIALS RULES

Allowance of Aerials is in accordance with the table below. If Aerials are used to enhance the dance, they must be executed SAFELY, and be integrated smoothly into the dance with appropriate timing and interpretation of the music.

### Aerials Definitions

1. **Baby Aerial:** Both feet leave the ground while the majority of either partner's weight is BELOW the chest height of their partner.
2. **Aerial:** Both feet leave the ground while the majority of either partner's weight is ABOVE the chest height of their partner.

### Permitted Aerials – Summary Table

DANCE WITH A STRANGER	Baby Aerials	Aerials
Beginner DWAS	NO	NO
Intermediate DWAS	NO	NO
Intermediate Plus DWAS	Yes	NO
Int Plus Over 50s DWAS	Yes	NO
Advanced DWAS	Yes	NO
Champions DWAS	Yes	NO
FREESTYLE	Baby Aerials	Aerials
Beginner Freestyle	Yes	NO
Intermediate Freestyle	Yes	NO
Pro Am Freestyle	Yes	NO
Intermediate Plus Freestyle	Yes	Yes
Int Plus Over 50s Freestyle	Yes	Yes
Advanced Freestyle	Yes	Yes
Champions Freestyle	Yes	Yes
OTHER	Baby Aerials	Aerials
Steals	NO	NO
Pro Am Showcase	Yes	Yes
Showcase	Yes	Yes
Teams	Yes	Yes

## SECTION H: FORMAT OF HEATS/SEMIS/FINALS

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### Definitions

1. **All Skate:** A heat/semi final/final where a number of competing couples are on the floor at the same time.
2. **Rapid Fire (Mini Spotlight):** One continuous song with individual couples moving on and off the floor as the MC calls.
3. **Spotlight:** One couple dancing on the floor for the duration of the song/s.

### Floor Positioning & Space

1. Apart from in Teams, Showcase, Spotlights and Rapid Fire, multiple couples will dance at once in an 'All Skate' format and all are required to dance within the space allocated to them on the floor. Travel across the floor is not permitted.

2. Penalties may be applied if dancers lack spatial awareness or perform a move irresponsibly which causes movement into another couple's dance space, or injury or collision with another couple on an All-Skate floor. (See our Breach of Rules policy for information on penalties.)

## DWAS Format

1. In all rounds of **DWAS**, competitors will dance with a minimum of 3 different partners, and will be judged as individuals.
2. Where there is an uneven number of leaders and followers, some will be randomly selected to dance again to make up the numbers but not be judged. Where possible, only dancers of the same level will be randomly selected for this purpose.
3. At the highest levels the DWAS Final may be run as Spotlight format, in which case partners will be allocated with a dice roll or similar random selection method, and will be judged as a couple.

In this case, dancers cannot be matched with a partner they are competing with in any other category **at this event** (not including brief partner changes in Teams, or participation in the Bonus Fun Category).

Each competitor is responsible for highlighting any conflict in this area before the music commences and failure to do so may result in disqualification of both partners. In the unlikely case where an unresolved number of conflicts occur after **3 dice rolls**, the Event Director will match the partnerships.

## Marshalling and Scheduling

1. Competitors must be at the marshalling area before their heat. If a competitor is not on the floor after **3 calls** by the MC, they (in DWAS) and their partner (in all other categories) will be eliminated from the competition unless a suitable workaround can reasonably be actioned by the Event Director.
2. The Event Director reserves the right to change the format of any heats/semi finals/finals due to competitor numbers, time restraints, or other reasons. The running order could therefore change at any time, so competitors (or a representative who can contact them) are required to **remain inside the event room at all times** to listen for announcements regarding any change, and **event staff will not be held responsible for competitors missing heats/finals etc for any reason.**

## SECTION I: JUDGING AND SCORING

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### Scoring/Ranking

1. In the **Heats** and **Semi Finals**, competitors are judged comparatively against ALL competitors across that round. Judges are asked to select a number of 'Definites' and a number of 'Alternates' to go through to the next round, based on the Judging Criteria in **Section J**.
2. Any competitors listed as 'Alternate' after the first round **should be on standby to compete** in the next round, in case one of the selected competitors withdraws between rounds.
3. The quantity of competitors who will progress to the next round is determined when the scores from each complete round have been processed. In all cases the Event Director will have provided the Scoring Manager with a desired number, however if this precise number cannot be achieved due to a tie, the Head Judge and/or Event Director will make the decision on whether to progress more or less competitors to the next round, without looking at competitor names. In cases where this still cannot achieve an appropriate number of competitors, the Head Judge's scores will be used to break the tie.
4. In Finals, all competitors will be **ranked** in order 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, etc based on the judging criteria.

### Scores & Results

1. All scores are final.
2. Competitors may request their scores and placings from [julie@ceroc.com.au](mailto:julie@ceroc.com.au) **after** the event. Only a competitor's own scores/placings will be provided. Judge names will not be provided.
3. Competitors are encouraged to understand that while our judges are carefully chosen for their expertise, experience, ability to judge impartially & fairly and to always follow the judging criteria, this is not a race – there is no clear winner who crosses the line first. Judges will see different moments in the time they have to look at all dancers on the floor. Judges will always

also have different opinions and preferences, therefore judges' scores will often vary across the panel.

We ask competitors to therefore use knowledge of their scores as an insight into how they were scored and ranked in general across the competition. If scores aren't as good as expected, we advise trying not to take it to heart, and to also consider that competition results are only indicative of how a competitor danced **on that particular day** and of course **comparatively against fellow competitors**.

## Scoring Staff

Many of our event staff are volunteers who also dance in the competition. In cases where a member of the scoring team is in the competition, a procedure is in place to ensure integrity of their own scores and any scores of a spouse or other close contact.

## Judge/Competitor Communication & Etiquette

We ask that all competitors respect that our judges have a very busy role on competition day, and therefore may not be able to interact with you in the same way as they would in other environments. The following guidelines apply:

1. Competitors are not permitted in the judges seating or breakout area.
2. Competitors may not approach the judges during the course of the competition day for advice and reasons for scores/rankings and/or what they should do in order to proceed to the next round. Competitors may ask judges for feedback **AFTER** the event and it is the judge's personal choice whether or not to provide it.
3. If choosing to give feedback after the event, judges will discuss only what they thought of the performance, and how the competitor can improve for the next competition. Judges are not expected to pass judgement on where a competitor placed and whether or not they (or other competitors) deserved that place.
4. Judges are entitled not to disclose their scoring decisions.
5. Judges score the competitors based on what they see on the floor in the time allocated. Any prior knowledge of how competitors usually dance or have danced previously is irrelevant.
6. Judges will score independently without discussion with other judges.
7. Judges are required to reveal any conflict of interest before the event in terms of any category they are assigned to judge (eg: choreography assistance, close contact etc) and the Event Director will assess accordingly.
8. Most judges are generally teachers and directors of groups that have people dancing in the competition. Judges will not cheer for their group whilst judging or sitting in the judging area, however when outside of the judging area and during the trophy presentation they will of course show support for their group.
9. The decision on which judges are on the panel at any given time is at the discretion of the Event Director and/or Head Judge. Competitors may not request exclusion of any judge from the panel.

## SECTION J: JUDGING CRITERIA

### General Criteria

1. The Number 1 judging criteria at this event is timing. Each dancer must demonstrate the fundamental timing, footwork, and body movement of Modern Jive the majority of the time.
2. In all categories except choreographed routine categories, the emphasis is on freestyle lead/follow dancing.
3. Whilst costumes are not part of the judging criteria, dancers at all levels are encouraged to choose costumes that will enhance their body movement and stand out on the competition floor.

### Important Note on Timing

While the Number 1 criteria is timing, **this MUST be balanced with, and enhanced by, the other priority elements in the criteria.**

For example, a competitor dancing perfectly on time but with inconsiderate lead/follow technique, and/or inadequate connection and partnering, and/or leading a whole song of Man Breakthroughs, is unlikely to score higher than the smooth leader/follower with good connection and more varied moves that might sometimes bring them occasionally off time....

**However, this also works in reverse** – smooth connection, good partnering and great moves is unlikely to score highly if it is off beat and/or not demonstrating the fundamentals of Modern Jive timing.

### Judging Criteria – Summary Table

CATEGORY	JUDGING CRITERIA
<b>FREESTYLE &amp; DWAS</b> (incl Over 50s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>MODERN JIVE TIMING</b> with directional movement on the upbeat (apart from when syncopating/accelerating etc)</li> <li>2. Evidence of <b>MODERN JIVE FUNDAMENTALS</b> – footwork, concertina action</li> <li>3. Considerate and clear leading/following, with good connection, partnering and technique</li> <li>4. Musical interpretation</li> <li>5. Variety and complexity of moves</li> <li>6. Style</li> <li>7. Performance attitude and entertainment value</li> </ol> <p><i>Note: When competitors are judged individually in DWAS, good partnering skills are a high priority. Inconsiderate leading/following will not score well.</i></p>
	<b>JUDGING CRITERIA</b>
<b>PRO AM FREESTYLE</b>	All of the above with the focus on the lower level competitor's ability
	<b>JUDGING CRITERIA</b>
<b>SHOWCASE</b>	<p><i>In no particular order:</i></p> <p><b>Choreography</b> – innovative, creative and musically interpretive content</p> <p><b>Dancing</b> – timing, style, quality of movement, posture, fluidity, connection, evidence of Modern Jive fundamentals</p> <p><b>Overall Presentation</b> – performance attitude, energy, mood, entertainment value</p>
	<b>JUDGING CRITERIA</b>
<b>PRO AM SHOWCASE</b>	The same as Showcase with the focus on the lower level competitor's ability
	<b>JUDGING CRITERIA</b>
<b>TEAM</b>	<p><i>In no particular order:</i></p> <p><b>Choreography</b> – innovative, creative and musically interpretive content</p> <p><b>Dancing</b> – timing, style, quality of movement, posture, fluidity, connection, evidence of Modern Jive fundamentals</p> <p><b>Overall Presentation</b> – performance attitude, energy, mood, entertainment value</p> <p><b>Teamwork</b> – synchronicity and formations</p>
	<b>JUDGING CRITERIA</b>
<b>BONUS FUN CATEGORY - STEALS</b>	<b>Timing</b> , plus seamless, smooth and safe transitions in the steals, combined with interesting moves.

## SECTION K: IMPORTANT INFO FOR ROUTINE ENTRIES

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### Modern Jive Content

Choreographed routines must show clear demonstration of a combination of the Modern Jive fundamentals the majority of the time during the dance. Modern Jive fundamentals include:

1. Connection to a partner
2. Concertina motion
3. Consistent timing based on directional lead/movement on the upbeat

These fundamentals are encouraged to be enhanced by, not overtaken by, other elements such as breakaway dancing, aerials, dips/tricks, and other movement/styling that may or may not be borrowed from other dance styles, as long as these elements show good interpretation of the chosen music, and provided that sufficient evidence of the listed fundamentals are present for the **majority** of the routine in the judge's opinion.

Examples of elements choreographers are **encouraged to consider incorporating** to provide variety and entertainment in the routine include:

1. Dips/Drops
2. Aerials (Baby and/or Full)
3. A limited amount of Breakaway Movement
4. Formation Changes and Partner Swaps (Teams)

While there is no fixed percentage of Modern Jive content required, judges will essentially be scoring routines highest that are a combination of the following (in no particular order), in addition to the criteria in **Section J: Judging Criteria**:

1. **Overall recognizable as Modern Jive** for the purpose of a Modern Jive dance competition
2. Demonstrating evidence of a combination of the fundamentals the majority of the time
3. Well choreographed
4. Well executed
5. Using music with a time signature that allows the fundamentals to be easily identifiable

Choreographers should consider that routines including any of the following elements *may* not be scored as highly as routines that demonstrate a higher quota of Modern Jive dancing:

1. Use of silence or non musical narrative
2. Choreography for some dancers to remain still and/or enter/exit the floor mid routine
3. Breakaway dancing for more than two consecutive minor phrases

**PLEASE NOTE:** These rules are designed to encourage creativity in choreography however it must be stressed that **this is a Modern Jive competition** and evidence of the listed Modern Jive fundamentals must be demonstrated the **majority** of the time.

In addition, competitors are advised that judges will have different opinions and some may place higher importance on some elements than others. Hence the recommendation for variety in routines and the existence of an entire panel of judges to arrive at a final combined result.

## Routine Disqualification

1. Judges will only report a routine for disqualification if they feel it is **clearly identifiable as a completely different dance style to Modern Jive** and therefore not appropriate for entry in a Modern Jive competition.
2. A **minimum of two judges** must report a disqualification in order for action to be taken and the Head Judge, in consultation with the Event Director, will make a final decision on whether disqualification is justified.
3. **To be clear, a routine will only be disqualified if it is determined to be a dance style other than Modern Jive.** If there is an element of Modern Jive in the routine, but insufficient evidence of Modern Jive fundamentals throughout the routine, the routine will simply be scored lower down the rankings (see below).

## Action on Insufficient Demonstration of Fundamentals

1. A routine that is considered by a judge to be essentially recognizable as Modern Jive, but not demonstrating the listed fundamentals the **majority** of the time, will simply be scored lower than other routines by that judge. Judges are asked to inform the Head Judge that this was their deciding factor for the lower score, and if so, competitors will be advised of such by the Event Director after the event (with judges remaining anonymous).
2. On calculation of the overall scores from the entire judging panel, if a routine has a final result of 1st, 2nd or 3rd place yet was also flagged by minimum two judges (or the Head Judge), a review will be conducted and the Head Judge, in consultation with the Event Director, will make a final decision on whether any action is warranted. The maximum penalty will be a downgrade to a non podium placing.

## Routine Music

1. All Team leaders, Showcase and Pro Am Showcase competitors must submit their music choice no later than **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026**.
2. The actual music track, including any optional bow/reprise, must be submitted in mp3/mp4 format no later than **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026**.
3. If more than one Showcase/Team has chosen the same music, the entries involved will be notified straight away as a courtesy, and all entries with the duplicate music will be permitted to enter the competition regardless.
4. The time limit of **2.5 to 4 minutes for Showcases & Teams** and **1 to 1.5 minutes for Pro Am Showcases** is **the duration of the music track** (not including any bow/reprise), not the amount of time actually dancing, so use the time wisely.
5. Routine music must have **no explicit lyrics**.

## SECTION L: OTHER GENERAL INFORMATION

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1. The Event Director is permitted to enter the competition. Any decisions usually required to be actioned by the Event Director will instead be actioned by the Head Judge in any categories in which the Event Director is competing.
2. The Event Director is permitted to be on the judging panel.
3. All participants at this event are required to act in a safe, courteous and responsible manner. Any competitors deemed by the event staff to be dancing or behaving inappropriately or offensively, or to be under the influence of alcohol or other substance which may cause harm or offence may be disqualified from the competition.
4. For all categories apart from DWAS, competitors must compete with the designated partner with whom they enrolled (for that category), for the duration of that category throughout the competition – ie if one half of the partnership forfeits, the entire partnership will forfeit their entry in that category of the competition.
5. In DWAS, competitors are not permitted to refuse a partner allocation. Obvious and serious negative reactions following the allocation of, or rotation to, a partner may result in disqualification.
6. Parts of the event will be recorded by video and stills photography which may be used by Ceroc & Modern Jive Dance Company. By entering the event you understand and agree to this footage being used for social media, website and other promotional purposes by Ceroc & Modern Jive Dance Company.
7. Competitors and spectators are permitted to take stills photos of their friends and family in the competition.
8. Competitors and spectators are permitted to video their friends and family in the competition **APART FROM IN TEAMS AND SHOWCASES**. Please ensure you have permission from any featured competitor before posting any footage of them publicly. Public release of videos with errors or incidents (eg a fall or embarrassing wardrobe malfunction) is not permitted – please respect people's privacy and reputation.
9. There is **no allocated seating** at the event, so spots are on a first come first served basis. Please place all bags safely underneath the seats. A limited number of spaces will be reserved for spectators and we ask competitors to ensure these seats are vacated should a spectator require one.
10. Ceroc & Modern Jive Dance Company and the Event Director accept no responsibility for loss or injury to persons or possessions at the event.

Good luck and have fun!

Dance your best, cheer your loudest and if you have any queries please contact [julie@ceroc.com.au](mailto:julie@ceroc.com.au) before the event date.

**Julie Gunn**  
**Event Director**  
**2026 Australian Ceroc Dance Championships**  
**[julie@ceroc.com.au](mailto:julie@ceroc.com.au)**