



**THE OFFICIAL**  
*AUSTRALIAN LINE DANCER*  
**COMPETITION RULES,**  
**GUIDELINES & GLOSSARY**  
FOR



The following Rules and Guidelines and must be read in conjunction with each other. They contain 'words with special meaning' as identified in '**bold print**' and are defined for the purpose of this document in the Glossary.

# INDEX:

1. [Glossary](#)
2. [Guidelines](#)
  - 2.1. [Summary](#)
  - 2.2. [Music Submission](#)
  - 2.3. [General Information](#)
  - 2.4. [Costumes](#)
  - 2.5. [Set Dance Sections](#)
  - 2.6. [Set Song Sections](#)
  - 2.7. [Own Choice Sections](#)
  - 2.8. [Qualifying Duo Sections](#)
3. [Rules](#)
  - 3.1. [General Rules](#)
  - 3.2. [Music](#)
  - 3.3. [Costumes](#)
  - 3.4. [Set Dance Sections](#)
  - 3.5. [Set Song Sections](#)
  - 3.6. [Own Choice Sections](#)
  - 3.7. [Qualifying Duo](#)

# 1. Glossary:

<b>Standard Line Dance:</b>	A Line Dance performed with all <b>Competitors</b> moving in lines on the same foot, at the same time, in the same direction - identically - in which a step pattern is repeated at least once to any <b>Piece of Music</b> . Tags and bridges do not form a part of the repeating step pattern.
<b>Competitor(s):</b>	One (1) or more performers per entry per section.
<b>Duo:</b>	<b>Competitors</b> with two (2) performers
<b>Crew:</b>	<b>Competitors</b> consisting of a minimum of three (3) performers, there is no maximum number of performers.
<b>Coach:</b>	Instructor of a competition crew without an advertised class.
<b>Instructor:</b>	Must conduct at least one (1) advertised class per week.
<b>Student:</b>	Must attend on average one (1) advertised line dance class per week.
<b>Prop:</b>	An item that is not worn as clothing, footwear or headwear.
<b>Piece of Music:</b>	One (1) song that is cut or extended for a performance to fit within time limitations. The <b>Piece of Music</b> cannot be enhanced by splicing two or more tracks together.
<b>Set Dance:</b>	A <b>Standard Line dance</b> which has a written dance sheet and which is selected and provided to <b>Competitors</b> by the <b>Event Director</b> .
<b>Set Song:</b>	A <b>Piece of Music</b> provided by the <b>Event Director</b> for the relevant section
<b>Own Choice:</b>	A <b>Standard Line Dance</b> which has been choreographed by a <b>Competitor / Coach / Instructor</b> to a <b>Piece of Music</b> of the <b>Competitor / Coach / Instructors</b> choice.
<b>Event Director:</b>	The person who has organized and who is responsible for the competition in question.
<b>Athletic Movements:</b>	Any movement that involves taking the complete weight of any <b>Competitors</b> body off both legs at the same time for more than two (2) counts of the music and also includes but is not limited to; <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Placing body weight on any other part of the body for any number of beats (hands / arms / head / torso / etc)</li><li>ii. Splits, flips or rolls (somersaults)</li></ol>
<b>Country Music:</b>	A <b>Piece of Music</b> or <b>Track</b> that is produced by a recognised country artist or band and/or is/or has been in the country music charts.
<b>Choreography:</b>	A competitors own choreographed interpretation of the <b>Piece of Music</b> that is a <b>Standard Line Dance</b> .
<b>Club:</b>	A group of <b>Competitors</b> whom represent their <b>Coach</b> and/or a class / instructor(s).
<b>Official Program:</b>	The document produced by the <b>Event Director</b> outlining the following minimum details for the event in question; <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Name of <b>Event Director</b>(s), Organisers and Adjudicators.</li><li>ii. Name and date of event.</li><li>iii. Contact details for the event.</li><li>iv. Timeline and Order of events.</li><li>v. Venue name and Address.</li></ol>
<b>Start Position:</b>	The beginning position on the floor for <b>Competitors</b> , as directed by the Head Judge.
<b>Styling:</b>	A <b>Competitors</b> own <b>choreographed</b> interpretation of the <b>Piece of Music</b> for the performance in question and that does not alter the <b>Set Dance</b> . This means that

choreographed movements of the entire body may be used to add to the performance, so long as the **Set Dance** is still adhered to.

**Waltz Music:** A **Piece of Music** that is in 3/2, 3/4, 3/8, 6/8, 9/8 12/8 time signatures. Dance steps must be in 3/4 timing and the rise and fall of a waltz should create a smooth wave motion.

**Costume:** May include:

- i.** Males: A shirt, vest, trousers or jeans.
- ii.** Females: A dress, shirt, top, leotard, trousers, skirt, jeans, cat suit (jumpsuit). Dance tights must be worn with skirts/dresses.
- iii.** Both Genders: Country boots, country hat, caps, street shoes.
- iv.** \*Costumes should be appropriate to the music and the dance.

The following definitions are a guide for competitors to consider when entering the WSLU;

**Novice** means:

- i.** A **Competitor** who has never entered a competition;
- ii.** Or never having received a medal in a competition;

**Beginner** means:

- iii.** A **Novice Competitor**
- iv.** Or a **Competitor** who has entered five (5) or less competitions
- v.** Or a **Competitor** who has not received a gold medal in a competition of four (4) Competitors or more;

**Intermediate:** Means a **Competitor** who has received a gold medal in a section of four (4) or more **Competitors**.

**Advanced:** Means a **Competitor** who has received a gold medal in a section of four (4) or more **Competitors** at more three (3) competitions.

The above is a guide only and the Event Director will consider all entries that do not fit the above definitions on a case by case basis as required.

# 2. Guidelines:

## 2.1. Summary

2.1.1. The following guidelines provide all Competitors:

- Instructions for Music Submission
- General information to assist **Competitors** with the interpretation of the Rules
- General information to add to the **Competitors** performance in accordance with the Rules.

## 2.2. Music Submission

2.2.1. All music must be submitted to the **Event Director** as per the following;

- i. Sent via email, CD or USB. No mini disks.
- ii. Each **Track** and/or **Pieces of Music** is to be saved as follows in the order noted:
  - The Section Code (E.G: *2B*)
  - The **Club** Name (E.G: *AAA Line Dancing*)
  - The first names of the **Competitor(s)** or the Crew name as per the **Competitors** Section entry form. (E.G: *Joe & Jane* or *Crew Joe*)
  - Working example: *2B AAALD Crew Joe*
- iii. It is the **Competitors** responsibility to ensure that all **Pieces of Music** and/or **Tracks** are provided correctly.
- iv. It is preferred that all music is submitted two weeks prior to the event.

## 2.3. General Information

2.3.1. For all sections, a minimum of three (3) **Competitors** is required. **Competitors** who enter sections that do not meet this requirement will be contacted by the **Event Director** or other nominated event staff to discuss options as soon as possible after closing date.

2.3.2. The maximum number of **Competitors** (per section) may be limited at the discretion of the **Event Director**.

2.3.3. **Competitors** must dance in a formation of choice for the performance and must maintain this formation, without change, for the duration of the performance.

2.3.4. Introductions are permissible (including freestyle type choreography) where introductory music allows.

2.3.5. Hand/arm positions may differ between male and female **Competitors** where differing costumes allow skirt and hats to be used to add to the presentation of a performance. Otherwise hand and arm positions should be identical.

2.3.6. Judging begins from the beginning of the **Piece of Music** or **Track** and continues until the **Piece of Music** or **Track** ceases, or the **Competitors** step off the dance floor – whichever comes first.

2.3.7. **Choreography** for Set Song and Own Choice Sections should be appropriate to a family audience and must not breach Rule 3.1.11. When creating and choreographing a performance, consideration should be given to:

- i. The entire body, not just foot, arm or head placement.
- ii. The tempo of the **Piece of Music** or **Track**
- iii. The entertainment value of the performance
- iv. The style of dancing being performed.

## 2.4. Costumes

2.4.1. All **Competitors** must remain in competition costume for presentations to be eligible to accept awards.

2.4.2. Hats are not compulsory for either male or female **Competitors** for any performance although it is suggested cowboy hats are worn when performing to **Country Music**.

2.4.3. Modesty skirts to be worn at the competitor's discretion. It is strongly suggested that modesty skirts are worn with long waltz style skirts.

2.4.4. Hats and skirts used during a performance are not considered props.

## 2.5. Set Dance Sections

2.5.1. For **Set Dance Duo** sections it is required that at least one (1) **Competitor** is a **Novice / Beginner** dancer – as defined in the **Glossary**.

2.5.2. For **Set Dance Crew** sections it is required that at least two (2) **Competitors** are **Novice / Beginner** dancers – as defined in the **Glossary**.

2.5.3. **Competitors** are required to perform the **Set Dance** as provided by the **Event Director**. The **Competitors** should perform the dance as written on the official step sheets which are provided.

2.5.4. **Styling** is encouraged to be added to the performance according to the music and the style of dance E.G. hats or skirts may be utilized to add to the performance.

2.5.5. The **Piece of Music** for the **Set Dance** sections will be provided by the **Event Director**

2.5.6. **Set Dance** sections time is for the first two minutes and thirty seconds (2.5 minutes) maximum of the applicable **Piece of Music**.

2.5.7. **Set Dance** sections will be danced in heats, as listed in the **Official Program**.

2.5.8. **Competitors** listed in each heat will compete on the floor at the same time (subject to change as required).

## 2.6. Set Song Sections

2.6.1. **Set Song** sections are for **Novice / Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Competitors** – as defined in the **Glossary**.

2.6.2. **Competitors** are required to perform their own **Choreography** to the **Set Song** as provided by the **Event Director**.

2.6.3. The **Piece of Music** for the **Set Song** sections will be provided by the **Event Director**

2.6.4. **Set Song** sections time limit is as per the entire length of the applicable **Piece of Music** provided for the section – however – depending on timing of the event, this may be cut to two minutes and thirty seconds (2.5 minutes) at short notice (on the day).

2.6.5. **Set Song** sections will be danced in heats, as listed in the **Official Program**.

2.6.6. **Competitors** listed in each heat will compete on the floor at the same time (subject to change as required).

## 2.7. Own Choice Sections

2.7.1. For **Own Choice Duo** sections it is required that at least one (1) **Competitor** is an **Intermediate or Advanced** dancer – as defined in the **Glossary**.

2.7.2. For **Own Choice Crew** sections it is required that at least two (2) **Competitors** are **Intermediate or Advanced** dancers – as defined in the **Glossary**.

2.7.3. **Competitors** are required to select their own **Piece of Music** to perform a **Standard Line Dance**.

2.7.4. **Competitors** must provide their **Piece of Music** to the **Event Director** as per the **Music Submission Guidelines** in **Section 2.2** of this document.

2.7.5. **Own Choice** sections time limit is as per the entire length of the applicable **Piece of Music** provided for the section – however – depending on timing of the event, this may be cut to two minutes and thirty seconds (2.5 minutes) at short notice (on the day).

2.7.6. **Own Choice** sections will be danced one **Competitor** at a time, as listed in the **Official Program**.

## 2.8. **Qualifying Duo Section**

2.8.1. This section is open for **Competitors** who wish to qualify for a Qualifying Duo Finals section – which are held at the nominated event noted in the Section entries.

2.8.2. If **Competitors** place First (1<sup>st</sup>) Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) or Third (3<sup>rd</sup>), they are then eligible to enter in the Qualifying Duo Final at the nominated event.

# 3. Rules:

## 3.1. General Rules

- 3.1.1. Competitors** may compete only once in each section they enter  
**Penalty – Disqualification**
- 3.1.2. Competitors** may be removed or substituted from crew entries on day of competition. One performer per section/entry may be substituted where no rules are broken.  
**Penalty - Disqualification**
- 3.1.3.** Each **Club** cannot use the same **Piece of Music** more than once for any of the **Own Choice** sections.  
**Penalty – Disqualification.**
- 3.1.4.** Age is determined as of the date of the competition. Proof of age is to be provided at the request of the **Event Directors**.  
**Penalty - Disqualification**
- 3.1.5. Competitors** must dance in the order published in the **Official Program**. **Competitors** must be ready to compete when called as per the published program. **Competitors** are provided with no more than two calls per performance.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**
- 3.1.6. Competitors** must remain on the floor for the duration of the performance, however dancing onto the floor during the introduction and off the floor as the **Piece of Music** fades out is allowed.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**
- 3.1.7.** Where **Competitors** of differing age brackets chose to dance together, the youngest **Competitors** age bracket must be entered. The only exception to this rule is for competitors under 15, who must dance in the older **Competitors** age bracket.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**
- 3.1.8.** As per above rule 3.1.7, **Competitors** of differing age brackets can only dance together where there is less than 15 years of age difference. **Competitors** of 15 years or more age difference can only enter the **Open** sections.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**
- 3.1.9.** No **Athletic** movements are allowed.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**
- 3.1.10.** No **Props** allowed.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**
- 3.1.11.** No crude, inappropriate or overly suggestive body movements allowed in the **Choreography** of all performances.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**

## 3.2. Music

- 3.2.1. Own Choice** sections music time limit is 5 minutes maximum.  
**Penalty - 5 points per Judge for every 15 seconds, or part thereof, over the time limit.**
- 3.2.2.** Music for the **Own Choice** sections must be no more than one **Piece of Music**.  
**Penalty – disqualification**
- 3.2.3.** If **Competitors** choose to use a **Waltz Timed Piece of Music** which include simple and compound 3/2, 3/4, 3/8, 6/8, 9/8 12/8 time signatures, dance steps must be in 3/4 timing with syncopations allowed.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**



**3.2.4.** No crude, inappropriate or offensive music is to be used.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**

### **3.3. Costumes**

**3.3.1.** No strapless items of clothing are allowed. Outfits must not have a bare midriff (this includes when part of the costumes ride ups and exposes a bare midriff).  
**Penalty – Disqualification**

**3.3.2.** Should any of the **Competitors Costume** be dropped or fall to the floor it should be picked up immediately.  
**Penalty – 1 point per judge for every 4 counts until the piece(s) of the costume is retrieved**

**3.3.3.** A **Competitors Costume** must not be placed on the floor.  
**Penalty – 1 point per judge for every 4 counts until the piece(s) of the costume is retrieved**

**3.3.4.** **Competitors** must wear Country Style Boots when dancing to **Country Music**, other footwear may be worn where appropriate to the music and the choreography  
**Penalty - 2 points per Judge for each infringement**

**3.3.5.** Bare feet are not allowed for any performances.  
**Penalty - Disqualification**

### **3.4. Set Dance Sections**

\*The following rules apply in addition to the **General Rules, Music and Costume Rules**

**3.4.1.** **Competitors** must perform the **Set Dance** applicable as provided by the Event Directors  
**Penalty – Disqualification**

**3.4.2.** **Competitors** must be aware of their personal dance space and not intentionally or carelessly intrude on another dancer's area.  
**Penalty – Points lost for non-compliance with this rule**

### **3.5. Set Song Sections**

\*The following rules apply in addition to the **General Rules, Music and Costume Rules**

**3.5.1.** **Competitors** must perform a **Standard Line Dance** only.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**

**3.5.2.** **Competitors** must be aware of their personal dance space and not intentionally or carelessly intrude on another dancer's area.  
**Penalty – Points lost for non-compliance with this rule**

### **3.6. Own Choice Sections**

\*The following rules apply in addition to the **General Rules, Music and Costume Rules**

**3.6.1.** **Competitors** must choreograph and perform a **Standard Line Dance** only.  
**Penalty – Disqualification**

### **3.7. Qualifying Duo**

\*The following rules apply in addition to the **Own Choice Section Rules.**

**3.7.1.** The dance performed must be a new dance and cannot be danced in any other section for the duration of the event.  
**Penalty - Disqualification.**

*\*Where unforeseen circumstances arise, the Event Director has the authority to alter or remove any rule in order to accommodate any request that is fair and/or reasonable.*