

# IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Rules and Regulations

**2011-2014**



August 2011



## **IPC WHEELCHAIR DANCE SPORT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

*2011 - 2014*

*Note: These Rules and Regulations are in full force from 1 September 2011*

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These IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Rules and Regulations are mandatory for all IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized competitions. The overall governance and management of all IPC Sports (including IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport) is subject to the detailed provisions of Chapter 2.7 of the IPC Handbook.

### **1.1 Printing of Rules and Regulations**

All rules of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport are the copyright property of the IPC and have been published for the benefit of NPCs, athletes, officials and others who are engaged in an official capacity with IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport. These rules and regulations may be reprinted or translated by any organisation with a legitimate need to do so, subject to IPC's continuing ability to assert its copyright in the rules and regulations, including the right to insist on an assignment to the IPC of the copyright in any translated version of these rules and regulations. The English version of these rules and regulations shall be accepted as the authoritative version for the purpose of interpretation.

### **1.2 Effect of IDSF Sport Technical Rules and Regulations**

The World Dance Sport Federation (WDSF) Sport technical rules shall be in force except where they are modified by the IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport rules and regulations. The WDSF rules are reinforced and not inserted or restated here and the rules and regulations of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport are to be read in conjunction with the WDSF rules.

### **1.3 Changes to these Rules and Regulations**

Please note that these rules may be changed at any time as a result, for example, of changes in the WDSF rules, or classification related matters or where IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport otherwise considers it necessary to do so.

Changes may therefore be effective before 2014 and proper notice of any changes will be given.

## 2 IPC WHEELCHAIR DANCE SPORT REGULATIONS

### 2.1 IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized competitions

a) IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Recognized Competitions include:

IPC Competitions (IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World Championships, IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Regional Championships)

Approved Competitions (International wheelchair dance sport competitions endorsed by an NPC).

b) A 4-year-cycle for Championships will be adopted as follows:

- Year 1: Regional Championships (except if included in Regional Games)
- Year 2: World Championships
- Year 3: Regional Championships (except if included in Regional Games)
- Year 4: World Championships

The designation of competition table is available in Appendix 1.

### 2.2 Competition Management

a) IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport alone shall have the right to manage World and Regional Championships. The words World and IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport may not be used in connection with any dance wheelchair dance sport event without the consent of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport.

b) IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport is empowered to formulate all rules and regulations for the conduct of such competitions.

c) IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport shall have jurisdiction over all matters not assigned by the rules to the Adjudicators, or other officials and shall have power to postpone events and give directions consistent with rules adopted for conducting any event.

d) IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport competitions must be organized in one (1) day or over two (2) consecutive days.

e) In World Championships and Regional Championships an event is viable if in the start list are a minimum of three (3) participating countries and a minimum of three (3) eligible couples by the final entries deadline.

f) In Approved International competitions the competition is considered viable if in the start list are a minimum of three (3) participating countries by the final entries deadline.

g) For IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized competitions a Local Organizing Committee (LOC) shall be appointed to manage the competition.

h) The LOC, subject to the overall control and direction of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport, shall be responsible for the entire management of the contest, including the arrangement of the programme of events, arrangement for the classification of wheelchair dancers, all technical equipment and installation prior to and during competition.

## **2.3 Athletes' Eligibility**

a) All competitors must adhere to the IPC Nationality Policy: IPC Handbook - Section 2 - Chapter 3.1 - IPC Athlete Nationality.

b) An athlete is eligible for IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport to compete only if he or she is not a professional dancer, dance teacher or adjudicator.

c) At IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized competitions all competitors shall be licensed by IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport in accordance with the IPC Athlete Licensing Policies.

d) At IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World and Regional Championships , and approved international competitions all competitors must sign the Athlete's declaration statement that is included in the entry form:" I am not a professional dancer, dance teacher or adjudicator".

e) At IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport International Competitions athletes must belong to an NPC in order to participate.

f) At IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World and Regional Championships and Approved International Competitions, all athletes shall have international classification. Athletes with N status require international classification prior to competition start. IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport determines the allocation of a dancer's class and status. Reference to all classification procedures and requirements are contained in the IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations.

## **2.4 Officials**

### **2.4.1 Technical Delegate (TD)**

a) The Technical Delegate shall be responsible to conduct site visits during the preparation period of the competition and check: the Dance Floor and its surrounding area, the Classification room, the adjudicators and

changing rooms, the music equipment and results systems and ensure that the competition will run smoothly and according to the rules and regulations.

- b) The Technical Delegate shall be responsible for the competition Dance Floor and its surrounding area and ensure that the competition is run smoothly and according to the rules and regulations.
- c) The Technical Delegate is ultimately responsible for all technical matters of the competition.
- d) The Technical Delegate is ultimately responsible for all IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport officials appointed.
- e) The Technical Delegate shall be responsible for cross checking the athletes' personal data with the results systems that are used for the competition.
- f) The Technical Delegate shall have responsibility to prepare the start lists at least 2 months prior the start of the competition.
- g) The Technical Delegate shall have responsibility to check if the start numbers are correct (not duplicated) and that the correct couples are on the dance floor from round to round.
- h) The Technical Delegate shall decide the number of couples to be recalled from the qualifying rounds.
- i) The Technical Delegate shall decide the number of couples for the final round if more than six (6) qualify.
- j) A report on the competition conduct must be prepared by the IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Technical Delegate at the World and Regional Championships.

#### 2.4.2 Non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators

- a) The non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators shall be responsible to check the scrutineers equipment.
- b) The non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators shall be responsible to inform the Adjudicators about the heats and the rounds during the Adjudicators meeting.
- c) The non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators shall be responsible to check if the dance dresses comply with the IDSF rules.

- d) In exceptional circumstances the non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators can allow dance dresses to be worn which do not comply with the applicable rules.
- e) The non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators shall be responsible to check if the music used for each dance is the correct one (e.g. no samba music for passo doble).
- f) Only the non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators can permit the extension of the maximum duration time of a dance where it is considered necessary for the fair adjudication of that event.
- g) The non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators shall be responsible to check if the music time limits for each dance comply with the WDSF rules.
- h) The non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators shall have the responsibility for checking if the correct number and panel of Adjudicators is on the Dance Floor in each round.
- i) The non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators can arrange for an Adjudicators replacement to be appointed in case of emergency during the competition.
- j) Only the non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators can decide on the number of couples per heat based on the dance floor size.
- k) The non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators works closely together with the Technical Delegate, the competition Announcer, and the scrutineers.
- l) The non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators will warn the respective Team Leader in case that a couple gives reason for disqualification. The disqualification cases are described in the Disqualifications section of this rulebook.
- m) Only the non voting Chairman of the Adjudicators has the right to stop the competition in case that the music, numbers of couples or music bars are not correct in the heat.

#### 2.4.3 Duties and functions of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Adjudicators

- a) Only persons from the list of qualified IPC Wheelchair Dance Spot Adjudicators can be appointed as Adjudicators for IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World and Regional Championships. Any proposal from the LOC for Adjudicator from the Host Country must be approved by IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport.

b) In the final of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Competitions the adjudicators shall place the couples. Place one (1) is the best place marking. The same place must not be given to more than one (1) couple. The Skating system has to be used.

c) Closed marking is used in all rounds of IPC recognized Competitions.

d) At IPC WDS World and Regional Championships IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport shall appoint one (1) Technical Delegate, and shall appoint or approve the following minimum number of officials:

- One (1) Non-voting Chairman of Adjudicators. This person can be from the Host country as long as he/she is qualified for IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport.
- At least 7 Adjudicators. One (1) of them can be from the Host country (subject to prior approval by IPC WDS).
- Chief Classifier (1) and an appropriate number of other Classifiers if applicable.

The Adjudicators must arrive latest one (1) day prior the Opening ceremony and depart one (1) day after the Closing ceremony. All costs of accommodation, transportation (international and local), meals, and a 100€ per diem per day of competition (maximum 2 days) during the Championships will be covered by the organizing committee.

e) For Approved International competitions IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport approves the following officials:

- One (1) Non-voting Chairman of Adjudicators. This person can be from the Host country as long as he/she is qualified for IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport.
- At least five (5) or preferably seven (7) Adjudicators who will not be members of a team delegation participating at the competition.
- If five (5) Adjudicators then at least four (4) will be International level and from outside the Host country.
- If seven (7) Adjudicators then at least four (4) will be International level and from different countries outside the host country.

The proposed list of Adjudicators must be sent to IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Office 4-6 weeks prior the start of the competition.

The Adjudicators must arrive latest one (1) day prior the Opening ceremony and depart one (1) day after the Closing ceremony. All costs of accommodation, transportation (international and local), meals, during the competition will be covered by the organizing committee.

#### 2.4.4 Dress Code

The World Dance Sport Federation dress code for the Technical Delegate, Non-voting Chairman of Adjudicators and the Adjudicators apply.

#### 2.4.5 Classification Panels

a) Chief Classifier (1) and Classifiers (for number of classifiers and classification panels refer to the Classification Rules and Regulations and Appendix of competition designation). The respective classifiers will be appointed by IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport and communicated by IPC WDS Office to the LOC.

b) The Classifiers must arrive latest one day prior the start of their duty (one day prior the start of classification evaluation process). All costs of accommodation, transportation (international and local), meals, during the competition will be covered by the organizing committee. For World and Regional Championships a 100€ per diem per day of duty (maximum 2 days) during the Championships shall be covered by the LOC.

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c) For more detailed information about Classification and Classification panels refer to the Classification Rules and Regulations section.

### 2.5 Pre-competition and after competition processes

Prior to the start of the competition and after the end of it there are certain processes to take place in all IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized competitions.

#### 2.5.1 Entries

a) In IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World and Regional Championships, each NPC is allowed to enter a maximum of three (3) couples per event and per class.

b) In World and Regional Championships NPCs shall only be allowed three (3) couples per event and class even after a couple changes class during the classification process.

c) Entries for IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport World and Regional Championships must be submitted within the pre-decided deadlines which are set by IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport and Local Organizing Committee. In case of late entries the decision whether or not to admit the couple will be taken by IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport under the "case by case" basis.

d) For IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport approved international competitions there is no limit in the number of couples per NPC per event per class.

### 2.5.2 Technical Meeting

Before the start of the competition there shall be a technical meeting with representatives of the participating countries and the Organizing Committee, supervised by the IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Technical Delegate. There can be a maximum of two (2) persons per country and one (1) of them shall have good knowledge and understanding of the English language.

### 2.5.3 Dress Check

On each competition day there shall be a dress check of all competing couples where the athletes will be wearing their competition costumes. The check will be conducted by the Technical Delegate and/or the non-voting Chairman of Adjudicators.

## 2.6 Results

a) Results are taken into consideration only from IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized competitions.

b) For IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized competitions IDSF or similar results systems should be provided by the organizing committee. The system will be used following IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport approval.

c) The organizing committee must submit the results from all events in electronic version to IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport office no later than **2 weeks** after the end of the competition.

## 2.7 Rankings

a) The Ranking system is based on the points that athletes can get by participating in IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized competitions of different levels (approved international, IPC World and Regional Championships).

b) An athlete can get from 100 down to 1 base point depending on its ranking in a specific competition.

c) The Ranking system is based on coefficients where the different levels of competitions are taken into consideration. For instance the World Championships has the highest coefficient.

d) The coefficient tables are presented in Appendix 2.

## 2.8 Processes for Approved Competitions

The most updated minimum requirements and application form are available on Appendix 3.

## 2.9 Protests

- a) The protest form is to be submitted by the Team Leader or the official representative of the delegation within **one hour** after the end of final of that event.
- b) The protest form must be submitted to the IPC WDS Technical Delegate with a fee of **100€**.
- c) The protest will be examined by the respective protest panel.
- d) For IPC Competitions the protest panel shall consist of the TD, the non voting chairman of Adjudicators and one of the Adjudicators in attendance (well qualified and selected by the TD) or one of the STC members who are not involved in any other function for this competition.
- e) The decision of the protest panel is considered final.

See also Appendix 4.

## 2.10 Return to Field of Play Decisions

At sports venues, it is the responsibility of the team physician to determine whether an injured athlete may continue in or return to the competition. This decision should not be delegated to other professionals or personnel. In the absence of the competent physician, other professionals or personnel should adhere strictly to the instructions that he or she has provided. At all times, the overriding priority should be to safeguard the health and safety of athletes. The outcome of the competition should never influence such decisions.

### 3 IPC WHEELCHAIR DANCE SPORT GENERAL TECHNICAL RULES

#### 3.1 Events and Programme of Events

IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport competitions consist of the following events:

DUO		COMBI	
Event	Class	Event	Class
Standard	1	Standard	1
Standard	2	Standard	2
Latin	1	Latin	1
Latin	2	Latin	2

IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport events consist of the following dances:

STANDARD DANCES	LATIN DANCES
Waltz	Samba
Tango	Cha-Cha-Cha
Viennese Waltz	Rumba
Slow Foxtrot	Paso Doble
Quickstep	Jive

The list of events for a competition may change until the final entry verification is closed.

Only IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport is authorized to grant exceptions on the programme.

#### 3.2 Sponsors, advertising and commercial markings on dancers equipment, clothing, accessories and footwear (including country's flag)

WDSF policies and rules apply.

### 3.3 Medals and Certificates

Medals: Gold, Silver and Bronze medals shall be awarded to both dancers respectively of the first three places of each event.

- a) In World and Regional Championships the IPC Protocol guides for such competitions level apply.
- b) In World and Regional Championships, in case that an event is finalized with three (3) or less couples medals shall be awarded following the “minus one” rule.
- c) In case that in the final round only three couples compete then medals will be awarded only to the first and second ranked couple. The third ranked couple will get only certificate.
- d) In case that in the final round only two couples compete then medals will be awarded only to the first ranked couple. The second ranked couple will get only certificate.

#### **4 JUDGING CRITERIA**

All IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized competitions are adjudicated according to the Judging Criteria that are presented in Appendix 5.

## 5 COMPETITION RULES

### 5.1 Dance Floor

a) For World Championships and Regional Championships the floor should be at least 350m<sup>2</sup> in proportional size.

b) For all other levels of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport competitions the Dance Floor must have a surface of a minimum 250m<sup>2</sup> where no side length is below 10m.

c) In that size of Dance Floor a maximum of eight (8) couples is allowed to enter in the dance floor in one heat.

d) Only the Non-voting Chairman of Adjudicators can allow larger number of couples on the Dance Floor in one heat under certain circumstances (e.g. if the dance floor is bigger than 400 sqm).

### 5.2 Start Number

a) The start numbers are produced and distributed by the Local Organizing Committee.

b) The start numbers must be worn always on the man's back.

c) If the male partner is a wheelchair user and his backrest is high then the start numbers must be worn on his backrest.

d) In Duo dance both dancers must wear the start number.

e) The start number must be visible at all times.

f) The start number must be assigned to specific couples and appear on all competition lists and timetables.

g) The start number must always be in **black numbers** in white background (or vice versa). The colors for the competition name and sponsor field can vary.

h) The start number size must be an A5 and the design must be as shown in Appendix 4.

### 5.3 Dance Dress

- a) For the Dance dress the WDSF rules apply.
- b) In Latin dances a two pieces Dance dress is allowed but the upper part must be decorated and must not look like a bra.
- c) Changes on the dance dress are allowed from round to round but never from heat to heat (between dances).
- d) The only exception on rule 4.3.c) is in case that the Dance dress is damaged and only after the Non voting Chairman of Adjudicators approval.

### 5.4 Music

The music should be relevant to the dance (e.g. not Samba in Paso Doble).

### 5.5 Music Time duration per event

In all rounds of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized Competitions, the music played shall be as follows:

- a) A minimum of one and a half (1 ½) minute for Waltz, Tango, Slow Foxtrot, Quickstep, Samba, Cha-Cha-Cha and Paso Doble.
- b) A minimum of one (1) minute for Viennese Waltz and Jive.

In the qualifying rounds of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognized Competitions the same music must be played during the various heats.

### 5.6 Music bar/minute per event

In all rounds of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport recognised Competitions the music played shall be as follows:

#### 5.6.1 Standard Dances

Dance	Sport Class 1	Sport Class 2
	Bar/minute	Bar/minute
Waltz	28-30	28-30
Tango	31-33	31-33
Viennese Waltz	56-58	58-60
Slow Foxtrot	28-30	28-30
Quick Step	48-50	50-52

## 5.6.2 Latin Dances

Dance	Sport Class 1	Sport Class 2
	Bar/minute	Bar/minute
Samba	48-50	50-52
Cha-Cha-Cha	28-30	30-32
Rumba	25-27	25-27
Paso Doble	58-60	60-62
Jive	40-42	42-44

## 5.7 Dance Couples composition

The composition of the dance couples in Duo and Combi events is as follows:

### a) Duo Events

The dance couple must consist of one (1) male and one (1) female partner, both of them must be wheelchair users and both of them must meet the minimum eligibility criteria for IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport (more information available on the IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations).

### b) Combi Events

The dance couple must consist of one (1) male and one (1) female partner, one of them must be wheelchair user and must meet the minimum eligibility criteria for IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport (more information available on the IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Classification Rules and Regulations).

Dancers must always dance with one partner in Standard and Latin event for Duo or Combi throughout the whole competition. Partners can be different (changed) only between Duo and Combi events.

## 5.8 Dance Rounds

a) IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport competitions shall comprise of at least two qualifying rounds to allow couples the opportunity to dance twice.

b) The number of rounds during a competition (first round, second round, semi-final and final) depends on the number of couples from which the competition consists of.

c) At least 50% of participating couples shall be re-called to the next round excluding the Final.

d) No more than six (6) couples should participate in the final of IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport Competitions and Regional Championships, but if more than six (6) couples qualify the Technical Delegate will decide and may

increase the number of the participants/couples that will participate in the Final round.

e) The way in which rounds will proceed based on the couples numbers is presented on the table below:

Number of couples	1st Round	Re-dance	Semi-Final	Final
1 couple	General Look or 1 and 2 together			
2 couples	General Look or 1 and 2 together			
3 couples	General Look or 1 and 2 together			
4 couples	General look			
5 couples	General look			
6 couples	General look			
7 couples		General look		7
8 couples	3	3		6
9 couples	3	3		6
10 couples	4	4	8	6
11 couples	5	3	8	6
12 couples	5	4	9	6
13 couples	6	4	10	6
14 couples	7	5	12	6
15 couples	7	5	12	6
16 couples	7	5	12	6
etc.				
24 couples		also 1/4 Final		

## 5.9 Disqualifications

The couples can be disqualified for the following reasons:

a) Eligibility Profile

b) No show up (if an entered couple does not show up without offering prior notice to the LOC). In this case the couple will be disqualified from the next IPC Wheelchair Dance Sport competition.

c) Dangerous Movements (Dance couples are not allowed to make dangerous movements such as, high back kicks, lay or sit on the floor).

d) Dancing against the Line of Dance (LOD)

e) Dance Dress (if this is not according to rule 5.3).

f) A couple will be disqualified if the same is repeated following the warning from the non-voting Chairman of Adjudicators or the TD to the Team Leader.

g) If a couple is disqualified during the Final round its result will appear as DSQ.



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