

We've had feedback on our earlier decision to restrict participation in the recreational division to recreational registrants only, designed to prevent unfairness where recreational competitors were allowed to partner with unregistered individuals and with accredited DSA members. This has led to reported unintended consequences in recreational participation and in some studios' operations. The following DSA Rule amendments - effective 1st June, 2018 - will alleviate the principal participation issue and clarify some related areas that were previously not well defined.

These changes better define rules which permit non-accredited people to partner competitors in Recreational Division events. The principal still holds that all participants in registered Dancesport events must be registered with DSA, with exceptions for novelty and other specifically exempted events. Additionally, it was found that the current rules make no provision for "Individual" events in the Recreational Division – i.e. Best Boy / Girl / Male / Female and similarly titled events. As a consequence, these events have been seen as being in the Teacher / Student category, and, whilst the Teacher / Student category of events has gained acceptance since its introduction, the initial rules (Rule 24) did not match the intended outcomes.

Thus, the below changes to DSA's 'Rules of DanceSport' have been introduced with effect from 1st June, 2018. Please note also that DSA Policy No CR 017.1 – 'Pro / Am and Teacher / Student Guidelines' is withdrawn, where the foregoing (and earlier) rule changes make this 'guideline' redundant.

Rule 12 – Recreational and Amateur Division Events.

A new clause has been inserted as 12.1 a) to define who may partner 'individual' recreational competitors.

12.1 (a) – Events in the **Recreational Division** can be conducted as being for either

- i) Couples – Regulations relating to "Couples" apply, or
- ii) Individuals – The competitor may be partnered by any person registered in the Amateur or Recreational Division who does not hold a DSA Accreditation.

Note 1: In these events, it is the competitor that is being adjudicated.

Note 2: These events are not classified as Teacher / Student events (refer to Rule 24).

Note 3: Individual events include titles such as Best Girl / Boy / Female / Male or other similarly designated events.

Rule 10 – Competition Divisions

Rule 10.2 a) has been amended to better define 'competitors' in the Recreational Division.

- 10.2 a) *Competitors in events* in the Recreational Division are restricted to competitors who have not competed in the Amateur Division, competitors in the Amateur Division are restricted to competitors who have not competed in events in the Professional Division and who are not otherwise excluded under these rules from competing in events in the Amateur Division. Open Division may include both Amateur and Professional Division competitors.

Rule 24 – Teacher Student Events.

Rule 24.1 has been amended to read - -

Teacher / Student events can only be conducted in the following categories according to the organisers' requirements for program management.

- a) Teacher / Student – where the Student is defined in the DEFINITIONS of these Rules.
- b) Teacher / Amateur – where the Student is registered in the Amateur Division.
- c) Teacher / Recreational – where the Student is registered as a Recreational competitor.

Rule 24.6 – A dot point has been added – “Individual events in the Recreational Division”.

Rule 24.6 now reads –

24.6 The following events are not included in the Teacher / Student category of events-

- Pro / Am events – as defined in Rule 7
- Teacher / Medallist events
- **Individual Events in the Recreational Division**

Rule 7 - DEFINITIONS

The definition of the term 'Student' has been modified slightly to read -

'Student' is a person who is registered as a Recreational Division or Amateur Division competitor and is competing with a person who is an accredited and registered DanceSport Professional or Amateur Instructor.

The terms '**ProC** and **Professional Coach**' have been deleted.

DSA has no mechanism of endorsing a society and certainly no way of knowing who is a financial member of that society, plus the term Pro Coach is confused with people who are registered in the Professional Division as competitors and hold an Accreditation.

Rule 19 - Registered Events

Rule 19.10 sub sections d) and e) no longer have any value, and are now deleted. Rule 19.10 would thus be amended as follows -

19.10 Recreational Competitions

Recreational competitions are a form of DSA 'Registered Event' that –

- a) Are required to be registered with DSA on the prescribed form and carry a DSA fee;
- b) Are conducted by DSA approved promoters (or approved promoter groups), including DSA Registered Teaching Facilities.
- c) Exclude participation by DSA amateur or professional division members, except that DSA members may partner participating individuals.
- ~~d) May contain events as designated by the promoter, but must contain a schedule of formal Recreational events within the competition program.~~
- ~~e) May allow DSA Recreational Division competitors to participate in events other than Recreational events at the discretion of the promoter.~~
- d) Are subject to DSA's rules and policies, and acceptance of the jurisdiction of DSA.

Rule 12 - Novelty Events – Delete the following categories from the listed items - Progressive Teams events to read Teams events; Events defined as Individual Events; and Teacher with 2 or more pupil events.

Rule 12.3 / 12.3 (a) is amended to read -

12.3 The only events conducted at a DSA registered event that is exempt from competitor registration are Novelty Events, viz –

a) A Novelty Event is one which does not replicate in part or in total, any of the existing classifications of Dancesport events. For clarification, examples of Novelty Events are:-

- Parent and Child events
- ~~Progressive~~ Teams events
- Partner / Medallist events
- ~~Events defined as Individual Events~~
- ~~Teacher with 2 or more pupil events (Rule 22.6 refers)~~
- Public Vote events
- Events for competitors with Special Needs
- Events in a dance style not recognised by Dancesport Australia