

# 1 Proficiency System

Version 4.3.1.0

## 1.1 Dance groups and levels

- The class level is an objective measurement of the athlete's progress in DanceSport ability
- The class level is independent of the age categories.
- The following notations for dances are used:

International Program		American Program	
Standard Style	Latin Style	Smooth Style	Rhythm Style
W – Waltz	C – Cha-cha-cha	AW – Waltz	AC – Cha-cha-cha
T – Tango	S – Samba	AT – Tango	AR – Rumba
V – Viennese Waltz	R – Rumba	AF – Foxtrot	SW – East Coast Swing
F – Foxtrot	P – Paso Doble	AV – Viennese Waltz	M – Mambo
Q – Quickstep	J – Jive		B – Bolero

### 1.1.1 N-class

- N-class level includes 2 required dances in Standard (W, Q), Latin (S, C), Smooth (AW, AF) and Rhythm (AC, AR).
- Points can be earned at Invigilated Pre-Bronze, Bronze, Silver, Gold or Open events.

### 1.1.2 E-class

- E-class level includes 3 required dances in Standard (W, V, Q), Latin (S, C, J) and Rhythm (AC, AR, SW) and 2 required dances in Smooth (AW, AF). Other dances from each style (T, F), (R, P), (AT, AV), (M, B) also can be counted toward the proficiency points, but they are not required to be eligible to level up to D-class.
- Points can be earned at Invigilated Bronze, Silver, Gold or Open events.

### 1.1.3 D-class

- D-class level includes 4 required dances in Standard (W, T, V, Q), Latin (S, C, R, J) and Rhythm (AC, AR, SW, B) and 3 required dances in Smooth (AW, AT, AF). Other dances from each style (F), (P), (AV), (M) also can be counted toward the proficiency points, but they are not required to be eligible to level up to C-class.
- Points can be earned only at Invigilated Silver, Gold or Open events.

### 1.1.4 C-class

- C-class level includes all dances in each style as required dances.
- Points can be earned at Invigilated Gold or Open events.

### 1.1.5 B-class, A-class and S-class

- B-Class, A-Class and S-Class have all dances in each style as the required dances.
- Points can be earned only in Open (non-syllabus) events for these classes.

NOTE: The level of a couple (1.3.6) is determined as of the beginning of the competition.

### 1.1.6 Level of the event and Syllabus invigilation

- The class level of the event is defined by the organizer. All couples entered must be the class level of the event or lower.

- The organizer can define the minimum class level. In this case, all couples entered must be not lower than this class level.
- Invigilation level of the event is defined by the organizer as an Invigilated or Open. The invigilation will be done according to the announced Syllabus level.

## **1.2 Events with different proficiency levels of the couples - Mixed Class Event**

### **1.2.1 Judging and awarding in the mixed class events**

- All couples will dance together, and the judges will mark them as one group.
- After the Final, the results can be announced separately for each Proficiency level, if the competition software has the required capability. See 1.3.2.
- The proficiency points will be calculated after the competition.

### **1.2.2 Participation in the mixed class events and higher-class events**

- A couple's eligibility to participate in the event will be defined based on section 1.3.6 and the associated notes in section 1.1.
- Any proficiency points earned in the higher-class level events will be awarded to the couple's current proficiency level.

## **1.3 Proficiency points and moving from level to level**

### **1.3.1 The concept**

- A couple earns points, but each dancer collects points independently from a partner.
- A couple (dancer in case of Solo proficiency event) earns points by outplacing couples (dancers) of the same or a higher level. A couple (dancer) does not earn points by outplacing couples (dancers) of a lower level.
- A dancer starts to collect points from zero in each class level. Unless the dancer exceeds the "Maximum Number of points when the dancer must move to the next proficiency level" and was leveled up by the system automatically. In this case, half of the extra points will be applied toward the next class and distributed across of all dances with the same ratio as they were collected.
- If a couple participates in the event, but is not registered in USA Dance, this couple will be treated as a couple with the highest-class level of the participating USA Dance registered couples or the level of the event, whichever is higher. This will be done only for the purpose of calculating the points for the USA Dance registered couples.  
The dancers who are not registered with USA Dance will not be awarded any points and they will not be assigned with a permanent class level.

### **1.3.2 How to earn points**

There are 4 types of points earned:

- A couple earns one point for each round in which they dance.
- A couple earns one point if they place first in their class (provided the event is contested).
- A couple earns the points based on its placement.
- A couple earns extra points for each outplaced couple of a higher level.

#### **1.3.2.1 Terminology:**

- **Couple's Place** [PL]
  - *Single Class Event* – placement of the couple in the event.
  - *Mixed Class Event* – placement of the couple is based on the number of couples of the same or lower class that outplaced this couple. *See example 1*

- **Number of Couples (in class)** [NC] – the sum of *Couple's Place* [PL] and the number of all couples of the same level and higher outplaced by this couple.  
*Note: NC does not represent the number of couples of a class entered in an event. It is a calculated number which can be different for each couple and depends on the number of couples of lower class who outplaced this couple and the number of couples of a higher class who were outplaced by this couple.*
- **Number of couples eligible for Placement Points** – 1/3 of Number of Couples or top 11 couples in class, whatever is bigger. When 1/3 of NC is not a whole number, it will be rounded to higher whole number. *Note the difference between Single Class and Mixed Class events.*
- **Placement Points** [PLP] - points calculated by the formula:  
If NC is less than 12: **PLP = NC - PL.**  
If NC is equal to or more than 12, but less than 36: **PLP = 12 - PL.**  
If NC is more than 36: **PLP = NC / 3 - PL**
- **Champion Point** [CP] – the point awarded for winning the class.
- **Progressive Points** [PRP] – the points awarded for each round. One point is awarded per each round.
- **Superior Points** [SP] – the points awarded for each outplaced couple of a higher level. One point is awarded for each couple whose class is one level higher and two points are awarded for each couple whose class is two levels higher.

1.3.2.2 Each couple gets *Progressive Points* for each round in which it dances regardless of whether it becomes *Placement Point Eligible*.

1.3.2.3 The first place couple (PL) is awarded an additional *Champion Point*. In the Mixed Class events, the first place couple in each class is awarded a Champion Point.

1.3.2.4 *Superior Points* are awarded for all outplaced couples of higher levels regardless of that couple's placement.

1.3.2.5 The score earned in the multi-dance events is multiplied by the number of dances in the event.

See the appendix for the sample chart of the awarded points for one dance depending on the number of other participating couples and the place taken by the couple.

*Examples (one dance event)*

1. **Couple's Place calculation in Mixed Class event.**

There are 12 couples in the event: 7 couples of D-class level and 5 couples of E-class level. The highest E-class couple became 5<sup>th</sup> overall. This means it is actually 1<sup>st</sup> among E-class couples. The next E-class couple became 8<sup>th</sup> overall, but it is 2<sup>nd</sup> in E-class.

2. **Proficiency Points calculation in Single Class event.**

There are 9 couples in the event. All couples have the same level. The event starts with the semi-final. Couples from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> places will each be awarded 2 progressive points for dancing two rounds; couples from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> places will each be awarded 1 progressive point for dancing in one round. Also, places from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> will be awarded based on the particular place: 1<sup>st</sup> –  $8_{(PLP)} + 2_{(PRP)} + 1_{(CP)} = 11$  points, 2<sup>nd</sup> –  $7_{(PLP)} + 2_{(PRP)} = 9$ , 3<sup>rd</sup> –  $6_{(PLP)} + 2_{(PRP)} = 8$ , 4<sup>th</sup> –  $5_{(PLP)} + 2_{(PRP)} = 7$ , 5<sup>th</sup> –  $4_{(PLP)} + 2_{(PRP)} = 6$ , 6<sup>th</sup> –  $3_{(PLP)} + 2_{(PRP)} = 5$ , 7<sup>th</sup> –  $2_{(PLP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 3$ , 8<sup>th</sup> –  $1_{(PLP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 2$ , 9<sup>th</sup> –  $0_{(PLP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 1$

3. **Proficiency Points calculation in Mixed Class event – case 1**

There are 5 couples in the event: one couple of C-class level and 4 couples of D-class level. The C-class couple got first overall place and it will be awarded  $1_{(PRP)}$  point. D-class couples PLs will have 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> places in class accordingly. They will be awarded: 2<sup>nd</sup> overall place (1<sup>st</sup> in D) –  $3_{(PLP)} + 1_{(CP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 5$  points, 3<sup>rd</sup> overall (2<sup>nd</sup> in D) –  $2_{(PLP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 3$  points, 4<sup>th</sup> overall (3<sup>rd</sup> in D) –  $1_{(PLP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 2$  points, 5<sup>th</sup> overall (4<sup>th</sup> in D) –  $0_{(PLP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 1$  point.

#### 4. Proficiency Points calculation in Mixed Class event – case 2

The same 5 couples are in the event, but the C-class couple got 2<sup>nd</sup> overall place and one of the D-class couples got 1<sup>st</sup> overall place. The C-class couple will be awarded  $1_{(PRP)}$  point. The first overall couple will be awarded as a 5-couples event, but other D couples will be awarded as for 4-couples event. 1<sup>st</sup> overall place –  $4_{(PLP)} + 1_{(CP)} + 1_{(SP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 7$  points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place (2<sup>nd</sup> out of 4) –  $2_{(PLP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 3$ , 4<sup>th</sup> place (3<sup>rd</sup> out of 4) –  $1_{(PLP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 2$ , 5<sup>th</sup> place (4<sup>th</sup> out of 4) –  $0_{(PLP)} + 1_{(PRP)} = 1$ .

### 1.3.3 Minimum Number of points and competitions required to move to the next proficiency level

1.3.3.1 Points are collected separately in each style. If the dancer has collected the required Minimum Number of points only in one style, he/she can advance only in this style. Smooth style has only 4 dances and different numbers of the required dances in E and D classes, so its associated numbers are listed separately.

- To move from N to E - 24 points
- To move from E to D - 108 points / Smooth – 72 points
- To move from D to C - 192 points / Smooth – 144 points
- To move from C to B - 300 points / Smooth – 240 points
- To move from B to A - 360 points / Smooth – 288 points
- To move from A to S - 420 points / Smooth – 336 points

1.3.3.2 An athlete must participate at minimum number of events of the same of higher levels at different competitions. It will allow the athlete to acquire the skills and competition experience necessary to move to the next level. Multiple events at the same competitions will be counted as one.

- To move from N to E – 1 competition
- To move from E to D – 3 competitions
- To move from D to C – 4 competitions
- To move from C to B – 5 competitions
- To move from B to A – 6 competitions
- To move from A to S – 7 competitions

*NOTE: This rule will not be enforced until further BAC decision.*

### 1.3.4 Minimum Number of Points in Each Dance (\*)

1.3.4.1 A dancer may have a different number of points in each dance, but he/she must collect, as a minimum, the following number of points in each Required dance. This is applicable in all styles.

- N-class – 6 in each required dance
- E-class – 18 in each required dance
- D-class – 24 in each required dance
- C-class – 30 in each dance
- B-class – 36 in each dance
- A-class – 42 in each dance

*Examples:*

1. To advance from E to D only in Latin the couple may have 18 points in Cha-cha, 38 points in Samba and 52 points in Jive
2. To advance from C to B only in Standard the couple may have 54 points in Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot, Quickstep (each) and 84 points in Viennese Waltz.

*(\*) The Minimum Number of Points in Each Dance is 50% of the Minimum Number of points required for a dancer to level up divided by number of the required dances in the level. For example, in E-class:  
 $108/2=54/3=18$*

### **1.3.5 Maximum Number of points when the dancer must move to the next proficiency level**

- Must move from N to E - 48 points
- Must move from E to D - 144 points / Smooth – 96 points
- Must move from D to C - 240 points / Smooth – 180 points
- Must move from C to B - 360 points / Smooth – 336 points
- Must move from B to A - 420 points / Smooth – 384 points
- Must move from A to S - 480 points / Smooth – 432 points

1.3.5.1 When an athlete collects the Maximum Number of points for the current class the athlete cannot dance at that proficiency level.

### **1.3.6 The proficiency level of a partnership**

- 1.3.6.1 If both partners have the same proficiency class in the style before a competition, the couple is assigned that proficiency class in this style for the duration of this competition.
- 1.3.6.2 If one partner has a higher class than other partner in the style before a competition, this partnership will have the level of the partner with the higher class in this style for the duration of this competition.

### **1.3.7 The proficiency level of a single dancer without a partner**

- 1.3.7.1 A single dancer with no permanent partner can collect proficiency points at any event where only one partner is judged.
- 1.3.7.2 A single dancer can collect proficiency points at Solo Competitor event. The number of proficiency points earned will be calculated the same way as for couples.
- 1.3.7.3 Proficiency points can be earned by an amateur student in Mixed Proficiency, Teacher/Student or Pro/Am events. Only half of proficiency points will be awarded.
- 1.3.7.4 All the proficiency rules are applicable in this case.

### **1.3.8 Class reduction option**

- 1.3.8.1 DanceSport athletes may request a reduction in their class/proficiency level if they don't compete during a period of one year.
- 1.3.8.2 DanceSport athletes may request a reduction in their class/proficiency level if they didn't advance to the next round and didn't earn any Placement or Champion or Superior proficiency points during a period of one year.
- 1.3.8.3 DanceSport athletes may request a reduction in their class/proficiency level if they participated but didn't advance to the next round and didn't earn any Placement, Champion or Superior proficiency points at twelve (12) consecutive competitions. All events of the same class held during the same competition are counted as one competition.
- 1.3.8.4 After the class reduction the athlete will be assigned the required Minimum Number of Points in Each Dance (see 1.3.4). The athlete can request to be assigned zero points.

### **1.3.9 Centralized Tracking of the awarded points**

- 1.3.9.1 Proficiency points are calculated and tracked only for registered USA Dance members.
- 1.3.9.2 Proficiency points earned by each dancer during the competition will be applied to the centralized database after the competition.
- 1.3.9.3 All dancers who reached or exceeded the maximum for the current level and satisfied with other required rules will automatically be leveled up. It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to be aware of the current class in each style and eligibility to participate in proficiency events.

## Appendix I.

### Example for D-class athlete who dances with D-class partner (D-class couple).

	Competition	Date	Dances	Level	Total Couples	Total Place	Couples in Class	Place in Class	Points	ΣST	ΣLT
1	MAC 2019	15-Jan-19	W,T,V,Q	D	23	3	11	3	44	44	-
2	USA Nationals -19	04-01-19	W,T,V,Q	D	16	1	16	1	60	104	-
3	5 <sup>th</sup> Brighton All Stars	06/29/19	W	C	11	3	9	1	11	115	-
4	5 <sup>th</sup> Brighton All Stars	06/29/19	T	C	11	4	9	2	9	124	-
5	5 <sup>th</sup> Brighton All Stars	06/29/19	V	C	11	2	10	1	13	137	-
6	5 <sup>th</sup> Brighton All Stars	06/29/19	Q	C	11	3	9	1	11	148	-
7	Red Bull Dream Cup	02/28/2020	W,T,V,Q,C,S,R,J	D	35	1	13	1	64/64	212	64
8	USA Nationals -20	04/17/2020	W,T,V,F,Q	C	61	8	61	8	85	85	64

- Mixed Class 4-dance event. 23 couples total. 12 couples of E-class and 11 couples of D-class. The event has ¼, ½ and Final rounds. The couple became 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and in D-class. There are two other D-class couples in front and 8 D-class couples behind this couple. There are no E-class couples in front and E-class couples outplaced by this couple are not counted toward this couple's result.
  - The couple has earned 3 Progressive Points for each round and  $11 - 3 = 8$  Placement Points. Total is 11 points for each dance which go toward accumulated sum of each dance, but it is not shown in the chart.
  - The final number of Proficiency Points for this event is  $11 \times 4 = 44$ . These points go toward Standard. It was the couple's first proficiency competition in D-class, so the accumulated sum in Standard is 44.
  - An accumulated sum for each dance is tracked by centralized database only. The accumulated sums by dances became: W-11, T-11, V-11, Q-11
- Single Class 4-dance event. 16 couples of D-class. The event has ¼, ½ and Final rounds. The couple became 1<sup>st</sup> overall and in D-class.
  - The couple has earned 3 Progressive Points for each round, 1 Champion Point and  $12 - 1 = 11$  Placement Points. Total is 15 points for each dance.
  - The final number of Proficiency Points for this event is  $15 \times 4 = 60$ . These points go toward Standard and that makes the current accumulated sum 104 points.
  - The accumulated sums by dances became: W-26, T-26, V-26, Q-26.
- Mixed Class 1-dance Waltz event. 11 couples total. 9 couples of D-class and 2 couples of C-class. The event has ½ and Final rounds. The couple became 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and 1<sup>st</sup> among D-class couples. The C-class couples became 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> overall.
  - The couple has earned 2 Progressive Points for each round, 1 Champion Point and  $9 - 1 = 8$  Placement Points. Total is 11 points for Waltz.
  - The final number of Proficiency Points for this event is  $11 \times 1 = 11$ . These points go toward Standard and that makes the current accumulated sum 115 points.
  - The accumulated sums by dances became: W-37, T-26, V-26, Q-26. It means this dancer met the requirements for the Minimum Number of Points for Each Dance (1.3.4)
- Mixed Class 1-dance Tango event. 11 couples total. 9 couples of D-class and 2 couples of C-class. The event has ½ and Final rounds. The couple became 4<sup>th</sup> overall and 2<sup>nd</sup> among D-class couples. The C-class couples became 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> overall.
  - The couple has earned 2 Progressive Points for each round and  $9 - 2 = 7$  Placement Points. Total is 9 points for Tango.
  - The final number of Proficiency Points for this event is  $9 \times 1 = 9$ . These points go toward Standard and that makes the current accumulated sum 124 points.
  - The accumulated sums by dances became: W-37, T-35, V-26, Q-26.
- Mixed Class 1-dance Viennese Waltz event. 11 couples total. 9 couples of D-class and 2 couples of C-class. The event has ½ and Final rounds. The couple became 2<sup>nd</sup> overall and 1<sup>st</sup> among D-class couples. The C-class couples became 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall.
  - The couple has earned 2 Progressive Points for each round, 1 Champion Point, 1 Superior Point for outplacing one couple of one class higher level and  $10 - 1 = 9$  Placement Points. Total is 13 points for Viennese Waltz.
  - The final number of Proficiency Points for this event is  $13 \times 1 = 13$ . These points go toward Standard and that makes the current accumulated sum 137 points.

- The accumulated sums by dances became: W-37, T-35, V-39, Q-26.
6. Mixed Class 1-dance Quickstep event. 11 couples total. 9 couples of D-class and 2 couples of C-class. The event has 1/2 and Final rounds. The couple became 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and 1<sup>st</sup> among D-class couples. The C-class couples became 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> overall.
- The calculation is the same as for Waltz (3)
  - 11 points go toward Standard and that makes the current accumulated sum 149 points.
  - The accumulated sums by dances became: W-37, T-35, V-39, Q-37.
7. Mixed Class 8-dance event. 35 couples total. 22 couples of E-class and 13 couples of D-class. The event has 1/8, 1/4, 1/2 and Final rounds. The couple became 1<sup>st</sup> overall and in D-class.
- The couple has earned 4 Progressive Points for each round, 1 Champion Point and  $12 - 1 = 11$  Placement Points. Total is 16 points for each dance.
  - The final number of Proficiency Points for this event is  $16 \times 4 = 64$  in Standard and  $16 \times 4 = 64$  in Latin.
  - The accumulated sums by dances became: ST: W-53, T-51, V-55, Q-53; LT: S-15, C-16, R,-16, J-16.
  - The athlete has collected 212 points in Standard and exceeded the Minimum Number of points required to move from D to C class (192) in Standard and became eligible to apply for C-class, if this dancer has participated in at least 4 different competitions of D-class or higher.

Both partners had applied to the Eligibility Committee and had been moved to C-class with zero points in each dance.

8. Single Class 5-dance Standard event. 61 couples total. All other couples are C-class too. The event has 1/16, 1/8, 1/4, 1/2 and Final rounds. The couple became 8<sup>th</sup> overall.
- The couple has earned 4 Progressive Points for each round and  $21 - 8 = 13$  Placement Points. Total is 17 points for each dance.
  - The final number of Proficiency Points for this event is  $17 \times 5 = 85$  in Standard.
  - Since all previous accumulated points are zeroed, the new accumulated sums by dances became: ST: W-17, T-17, V-17, F-17, Q-17.