



World Para Dance Sport

KV Judging System 2017

Created and developed by Konstantin Vasilev
Approved for the official use in WPDS since 1 March 2018

1. General Rules for Conventional Events.

1.1. Preliminary Rounds.

- 1.1.1. World Para Dance Sport competitions shall be comprised of at least two qualifying rounds to allow couples/athletes the opportunity to dance twice.
- 1.1.2. All couples/athletes have to perform all dances in a round. In order to fulfil this criterion all couples/athletes have to be split into different heats. The participants should be mixed from heat to heat in different dances. Those couples/athletes who take part in the last heat preferably should not be called to the first heat in the next dance. This Rule does not apply in case of only 2 heats in each dance or just in case of 1 heat only.
- 1.1.3. In case up to twelve (12) couples/athletes are competing, the first round should be conducted as General Look. General Look round means that the adjudicators have the opportunity to see and evaluate all competing couples/athletes without giving them marks before the Final round. All couples/athletes in this case will pass to the Final round.
- 1.1.4. The number of rounds during a competition (First round, Re-dance, Second round, etc.) depends on the number of couples/athletes of which the competition consists.
- 1.1.5. Re-dance round gives the opportunity to fulfil the Rule 1.1.1. for all competing couples/athletes.
- 1.1.6. In all preliminary rounds judging happens by “Yes” or “No” principle, where “Yes” means 1 point and “No” – no points. Couples/athletes with bigger amount of points will be qualified to the next round.
- 1.1.7. Some time it happens that several couples/athletes get the same number of points and through a tie more couples/athletes qualify to the next round, then the number of couples/athletes to dance shall be decided by the Chairperson of Adjudicators.
- 1.1.8. No more than twelve (12) couples/athletes should participate in the Final round of the World Para Dance Sport competitions, but in case more than twelve (12) couples/athletes qualify, the Chairperson of Adjudicators will decide whether or not to increase the number of participants. The extension of the Final round can be done up to 15 couples/athletes maximum.
- 1.1.9. The number of couples/athletes which shall be recalled from round to round is presented in the table below:

Number of couples/athletes	1st round	Re-dance	2nd round	Final
3 couples/athletes	General look (1 heat)			3
4 couples/athletes	General look (1 heat)			4
5 couples/athletes	General look (1 heat)			5
6 couples/athletes	General look (1 heat)			6
7 couples/athletes	General look (1 heat)			7
8 couples/athletes	General look (1 or 2 heats)			8
9 couples/athletes	General look (2 heats)			9
10 couples/athletes	General look (2 heats)			10
11 couples/athletes	General look (2 heats)			11
12 couples/athletes	General look (2 heats)			12
13 couples/athletes *)	6	4	-	10
14 couples/athletes *)	7	5	-	12
15 couples/athletes *)	7	5	-	12
16 couples/athletes	7	5	-	12
etc.	7	5	-	12
24 couples/athletes	7	5	-	12
25 couples/athletes	12	6	18	12
26 couples/athletes	12	6	18	12
27 couples/athletes	12	6	18	12
etc.	12	6	18	12
36 couples/athletes	12	6	18	12

*) See the Rules 1.1.10. and 1.1.11.

1.1.10. The Rule 1.1.3. can be applied to a competition up to fifteen (15) couples/athletes.

1.1.11. In case of from thirteen (13) to fifteen (15) couples/athletes the way of holding a competition with only two (2) rounds: General Look and Final or choosing the way of three rounds: 1st round, Re-dance and Final is the responsibility of the LOC to choose. See the table below:

Number of couples/athletes	1st round	Re-dance	2nd round	Final
13 couples/athletes	General look (2 heats)			13
14 couples/athletes	General look (2 heats)			14
15 couples/athletes	General look (2 heats)			15

1.2. Final Round

1.2.1. The Final round usually consists of up to 12 couples/athletes.

1.2.2. The principle of performance of couples/athletes: no more than 3 couples/athletes in 1 heat.

1.2.3. The forming system of the heats is identical to that used in the preliminary rounds.

1.2.4. At least 2 couples/athletes should be entered in each heat of a current dance in the Final round. The heats format in accordance with the number of participants in the table below:

Number of couples/athletes	n/n/n/n – Number of couples/athletes in one heat showing the number of heats
12	3/3/3/3
11	3/3/3/2
10	3/3/2/2
9	3/3/3
8	3/3/2
7	3/2/2
6	3/3
5	3/2
4	2/2
3	3

1.2.5. It could happen that after the preliminary rounds several couples/athletes form so called "tie". It means that several couples/athletes get the same markings and could not be split. In this case the Chairperson of Adjudicators can make a decision of the Extension of the Final round up to 15 couples/athletes maximum.

In this case the heats format will be as follows:

Number of couples/athletes	n/n/n/n – Number of couples/athletes in one heat showing the number of heats
13	3/3/3/2/2
14	3/3/3/3/2
15	3/3/3/3/3

1.3. The procedure of judging in the Final Round

1.3.1. Composition of Adjudicators Team is the same for Conventional and Freestyle sections.

1.3.2. Judging consists of marking with absolute points in three different aspects:

- a) Technical Skills
- b) Choreography and Presentation
- c) Difficulty Level

1.3.3. The Adjudicators Team consists of in between 7 to 9 Adjudicators plus 1 Chairperson of Adjudicators.

1.3.4. Each Adjudicator is identified by the capital letter of the Latin alphabet: A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; J. Adjudicators will mark two (2) of three (3) aspects in accordance with the Table presented in 1.3.5.

1.3.5. Composition of Adjudicators panel per competition:

Number of Adjudicators in a competition	Evaluating group in Technical Skills (TS)	Evaluating group in Choreography and Presentation (CP)	Evaluating group in Difficulty Level (DL)
7 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G)	A, B, C, E, G	A, C, D, E, F	B, D, F, G
8 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H)	A, B, C, E, G	A, C, D, E, F, H	B, D, F, G, H
9 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, J)	A, B, C, E, G, J	A, C, D, E, F, H	B, D, F, G, H, J

1.3.6. Marking system.

a) Technical Skills marking

Adjudicators should evaluate the Technical Skills of the couple/athlete in absolute points in accordance with Technical Skills evaluation criteria using the scale from 5,0 to 9,9 with the 0,1 step (9,9 is the highest mark). The scale can be extended to the range up to 1,0. This opportunity is necessary to have for those participants whose level of performance can be quite weak, for example, beginners. See the scale below.

POINTS	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
0,9									
0,8									
0,7									
0,6									
0,5									
0,4									
0,3									
0,2									
0,1									
0,0									

b) Choreography and Presentation marking

Adjudicators should evaluate the Choreography and Presentation of the couple/athlete in absolute points in accordance with Choreography and Presentation evaluation criteria using the scale from 5,0 to 9,9 with the 0,1 step (9,9 is the highest mark). The scale can be extended to the range up to 1,0. This opportunity is necessary to have for those participants whose level of performance can be quite weak, for example, beginners. See the scale below.

POINTS	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
0,9									
0,8									
0,7									
0,6									
0,5									
0,4									
0,3									
0,2									
0,1									
0,0									

c) Difficulty Level marking

Adjudicators should evaluate the Difficulty level of the performance in absolute points in accordance with Difficulty level evaluation criteria using the scale from 1,00 to 1,50 with the 0,05 step (1,5 is the highest mark). See the scale below.

Difficulty coefficients:

1,00	1,05	1,10	1,15	1,20	1,25	1,30	1,35	1,40	1,45	1,50
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

Each adjudicator should put marks in accordance with his judging appointment.

For example, adjudicator “A” should mark 3 participants in a current heat (see the table)

Number	Adjudicator A	
10	TS	6,7
	CP	7,8
17	TS	7,5
	CP	7,4
21	TS	8,9
	CP	9,1

In this example the Adjudicator “A” have to evaluate participants with numbers 10, 17 and 21 in Technical Skills (TS) and Choreography and Presentation (CP).

1.3.7. In case of necessity after all participants have performed a current dance, adjudicators can ask for 2-3 minutes for checking markings or for making a collegial decision (points 1.5. and 2.3.)

1.4. The Result Formula

The Formula below shows how the points are allocated to the participants for one dance:
 (Value 1 + Value 2) x Value 3 – (Deductions Value if any) = Result

where

Value 1 – Technical Skills Value

The highest and the lowest marks will be ignored

The Average mark will be determined from the other marks for Technical Skills

Value 2 – Choreography and Presentation Value

The highest and the lowest marks will be ignored

The Average mark will be determined from the other marks for Technical Skills

Value 3 – Difficulty Level Value

The highest and the lowest marks will be ignored

The Average mark will be determined from the other marks for Technical Skills

For example:

Considering 7 Adjudicators markings for one dance of one participant:

Adj.	TS					Value1	CP					Value2	DL				Value3	Deductions	Result
	A	B	C	E	G		A	C	D	E	F		B	D	F	G			
	7,5	7,4	7,5	7,7	7,8	7,567	8,4	8,1	8,4	8,3	8,2	8,200	1,25	1,35	1,30	1,35	1,325	0	20,891

After taking away the highest and the lowest marks in each section, the average mark can be determined.

The result for this dance in this example will be as follows:

(Value 1 + Value 2) x Value 3 – Deductions = Result

(7,567 + 8,200) x 1,325 - 0 = **20,891**

The final result of the participant will consist of the sum the participant have got for all dances.

The example below shows the final result of the couple/athlete after performing 5 dances:

Number	Family Name / Name	Number	1 Dance	2 Dance	3 Dance	4 Dance	5 Dance	Number	Result	Rank
11	Athlete M / Athlete F	11	17,340	15,745	18,154	15,750	15,694	11	82,683	7

1.5. Deductions

Chairperson of Adjudicators is responsible for deductions in the Final round.

In case of any of Adjudicators and/or Chairperson of Adjudicators notice violation, then a collegial decision of an Adjudicators team is required. If the majority of Adjudicators vote "for", then the deduction is applied. In case of no agreement between Adjudicators the final decision is under Chairperson of Adjudicators responsibility. This decision is final and not subject to revision.

The decision should be made during the pause between final rounds of dances from one dance to the next

one.

The following actions will result on loss of points:

Violation	Deductions (points)
Falling due to misbalance Exception is in case of couples'/athletes collisions	-1,0 for each
Prematurely break off a dance Exceptions are short interruptions of a dance due collisions, technical failure or similar occurrences.	-2,0
A gap of Closed Hold in Combi Standard Exception is when couples break the hold in order to avoid collision	-1,0
Pushing wheelchair with foot to start the movement / stopping wheelchair with the standing partner's foot in Combi Standard or Latin.	-3,0
Wheelchair athlete stops or starts the movement of wheelchair with a foot (feet)	-3,0
Illegal element violation – Lifts Exception is the case of an unintended Lift, which occurs due to a technical failure of execution of an element. In this case Adjudicators should put lower markings in Technical Skills section as the element was executed in a wrong way.	-1,0
Dancing against the line of dance (LOD) Exception is in case of movement avoiding the collision	-2,0
Dangerous movements (high back kicks, laying or sitting on the floor, uncontrolled speed) Exception is at the highlight in Paso Doble	-2,0
Rough behaviour on the dance floor (crashing on purpose or fighting)	-5,0 for the first time DSQ in case of repeat

2. General Rules for Freestyle/Showdance Events.

2.1. Preliminary Section for Freestyle/Showdance Events.

- 2.1.1. There are no preliminary rounds in Freestyle/Showdance section.
- 2.1.2. The order of performances in the Final round is determined by a draw.
- 2.1.3. In order to gain admission to the World or Regional Championships in WPDS, couples/athletes must show the reasonable result in at least one competition of the current season:
For Class 1 – not less than 15,000 points
For Class 2 – not less than 18,000 points

2.2. Final Round

- 2.2.1. Composition of Adjudicators Team and marking system is the same for Conventional and Freestyle sections as it is described in paragraph 1.3.
- 2.2.2. Very rare, but still a situation can happen with a tie between two or more couples/athletes. See the example below:

Adj.	TS						Value		CP						Value		DL					Value		Ded	Result	Place
	A	B	C	E	G	min	max	1	A	C	D	E	F	min	max	2	B	D	F	G	min	max	3			
48	7,9	6,0	7,2	5,2	5,6	5,2	7,9	6,267	7,5	7,3	6,3	5,4	5,5	5,4	7,5	6,367	1,00	1,05	1,20	1,10	1,00	1,20	1,075		13,581	7-8
36	7,5	6,2	6,1	6,7	5,8	5,8	7,5	6,333	7,9	6,2	5,8	6,9	5,3	5,3	7,9	6,300	1,00	1,05	1,10	1,15	1,00	1,15	1,075		13,581	7-8

In order to untie the situation and rank the couples/athletes it is necessary to switch off the highest and the lowest marks neglect. All marks should be accepted. In this case under additional indicators ranks can be determined:

Adj.	TS					Value	CP					Value	DL				Value	Ded	Result	Place
	A	B	C	E	G	1	A	C	D	E	F	2	B	D	F	G	3			
48	7,9	6,0	7,2	5,2	5,6	6,380	7,5	7,3	6,3	5,4	5,5	6,400	1,00	1,05	1,20	1,10	1,086		13,879	7
36	7,5	6,2	6,1	6,7	5,8	6,460	7,9	6,2	5,8	6,9	5,3	6,420	1,00	1,05	1,10	1,15	1,075		13,846	8

This procedure shall be done only for the couples/athletes getting in tie position and only for determination of the rank. In official protocols the “tie” result should be kept. It means that in the example presented the participant with number 48 will get the 7th place with the result 13,879 points and number 36 will be 8th with 13,851 points.

2.3. Deductions

Chairperson of Adjudicators is responsible for deductions.

The following actions will result on loss of points:

Violation	Deductions (points)
Falling due to misbalance	-1,0 for each
Wheelchair dancer performing on the floor out of his/her wheelchair **)	-5,0
Usage of accessories and/or props **)	-3,0
Violation of time limits of performances	-2,0
Violation to the dress code	-1,0
More than 3 lifts starting from the 4 th one	-1,0 for each

**) A collegial decision is required at these points. If the majority of adjudicators vote "for", then the deduction is applied. In case of no agreement between adjudicators the final decision is under Chairperson of Adjudicators responsibility. This decision is final and not subject to revision.

3. Evaluation system guide

3.1. Technical Skills evaluation

Overall wheelchair control quality: the flow over the dance floor demonstrated in connection of wheelchair and an athletes' body, the clarity of wheelchair technique and use of effortless power to accelerate and vary speed of movements including different types of turns.

3.1.1. Wheelchair Dance Skills

- Balanced connection of an athlete's body with their wheelchair
- Notional axis through the head and the body of an athlete is vertical and optimally harmonious
- Flow and effortless rolling of a wheelchair
- Mastery ability to direct a wheelchair through space while dancing through the use of the body work
- Cleanness and sureness of hand work of an athlete with hand rims in “steps”, arc movements and turns of wheelchair
- Power / energy, acceleration and precise stopping of wheelchair
- Mastery of multi-directional wheelchair moving
- Equal mastery of wheelchair technique by both partners shown in interaction in Duo categories.
- Balanced connection and interaction with an able-bodied athlete in Combi categories.

3.1.2. Performance/Execution

Performance is the involvement of the wheelchair athlete (Singles)/Duo couple/Combi couple physically, emotionally and intellectually as they translate the intent of the music and choreography. Execution is the quality and precision of the movement itself and in connection with the following movement. This includes harmony of movements in Singles, Duo and Combi couples presentations.

- Physical, emotional and intellectual involvement

- Bodylines (in Singles, Duo and Combi as well as connection in couples)
- Style and individuality/personality
- Clarity of movement
- Posture and hold (especially in Combi Standard)
- Unity in a couple (Duo and Combi events)
- Spatial awareness between partners management of changes of hold (Duo in all events and Combi in Latin and Freestyles)

3.2. Choreography/ Presentation

The intentional development and/or original types of movements; according to the principles of proportion, unity, space, pattern, structure and phrasing.

3.2.1. Choreography

- Purpose (idea, concept, vision)
- Choreographic content
- Phrasing and form (movements and parts structured to match the phrasing of the music)
- Originality of movement and design
- Shared responsibility in achieving purpose (Duo and Combi couples)

3.2.2. Interpretation

The personal and creative “translation/adaptation” of the music into body movement, performed on the space.

- Effortless movement in time to the music
- Expression of the music's style, character, rhythm
- Use of finesse to reflect the nuances of the music
- Relationship between the partners reflecting the character of the music (Duo and Combi)

3.2.3. Timing

The ability of the couple/athlete to dance strictly in time with the music, reflect the rhythm patterns and prescribe beat values of the dance.

- Dancing in time to the music
- Dancing on the strong beat
- Dancing under the prescribed beat values for each step/move
- Introductory steps/moves (dance starting on the correct measure of the music)

3.3. Difficulty Level

The varied wheel/foot and body work, positions, movements and holds that link all elements. This also includes the “entrances” and “exits” of all elements.

- Variety
- Difficulty (flow and effortless, wheelchair dancing by using the body work)
- Quality (wheelchair control including unity in couples)
- Balance of workload between partners (Combi and Duo)
- Variety of positions
- Transition movement quality (specially, when there are lifts in Freestyle section)
- Variation of speed and linking movements including turns/multiple turns
- Music interpretation by physical dynamics of the wheelchair athlete as well as standing partner
- Usage of sophisticated and syncopated rhythms

Difficulty Level is a generalising aspect of judging which takes into account all aspects of judging like technical skills, choreography, musicality, interpretation, interaction, connection, etc.