



**NEW ZEALAND AMATEUR  
ROCK 'N' ROLL ASSOCIATION INC.**



***RULE BOOK A  
YEAR 2007***

***FOR JUNIOR AND SENIOR NATIONAL DANCING CHAMPIONSHIPS***

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**1. GENERAL**

- 1.1 Membership to this Association is open to bona fide amateur Rock 'n' Roll Clubs only.
- 1.2 A club must have been established and affiliated to the Association within the financial year to qualify for the National Championships. Refer rule 10.1
- 1.3 All fees and monies mentioned in this Rule Book are G.S.T. inclusive.

#### 1.4 FEES

Only members of clubs currently financial and affiliated to the Association can compete in the competitions.

- (a) An application fee of \$25 will be charged.
- (b) The membership fee is \$300 for all member clubs per year, payable by 1st August. Of this fee \$75 is to be allocated as registration of one delegate for the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Plus a levy of \$2.25 per club member aged 18 years and over, calculated at each club's balance date and payable to the Association within 30 days of that date.

**Note:** All monies due to the Association shall incur a ten percent penalty (10%) if not paid by the due date.

#### 1.5 TES

- (a) A Club must pay and participate in the Travel Equalisation Scheme (TES) if they wish to attend the A.G.M. The payment is to be paid by the 1<sup>st</sup> April in the year of the AGM.
- (b) Observers may attend the AGM if their club has delegate/s registered.
- (c) The cost will be \$225 for the first delegate and \$300 for the 2nd delegate being \$225 T.E.S. and \$75 AGM registration. The AGM Fee of \$75 is payable to register an observer, and is not part of the TES scheme.
- (d) Clubs can send receipts for the air fares/travel expenses with a cheque for the balance to equal the T.E.S. contribution (or request a refund if the costs exceed the contribution). There will be no refund for Clubs who cancel in the month of the A.G.M. except at the discretion of the Executive committee.
- (e) The cost will be set at each A.G.M. Reimbursements shall be up to, but not more than a flexi saver or equivalent air fare, or mileage at the current cents per km rate as listed in Book B. Any surplus will be divided equally among attending delegates.
- (f) All travel claims must be in the hands of the Association Treasurer no later than seven days prior to the AGM. Any claims submitted after the seven days will not be reimbursed.

1.6 Alteration of Rule Book A must be implemented by a remit at an Annual General Meeting. The date for receipt of Remits is 90 days prior to the AGM and to be in writing addressed to the Secretary of the Association. The final date for acceptance is to be advised by newsletter. Remits taken from the floor will be at the discretion of the meeting.

1.7 The National Championships are voluntarily hosted by member clubs. The selection of host club is made at the Association AGM. The host club is obliged to:

- (a) charge a levy of \$4.50 for each Saturday ticket sold and \$4.50 for each Sunday ticket sold (excluding public door sales), payable to the Association.

- (b) forward such monies owing to the Association, no later than one month after the championship.

1.8 The National Championships are held over 3 consecutive days, Friday/Saturday/Sunday. National Championship sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 & 12 on the Saturday and sections 13, 5, 6, 7 and 8 on the Sunday. Refer rule 5.1

1.9 The dividing point between the age limits for the Junior Championship and the Senior Championship is 18 yrs of age.  
The age limits are:

Junior Championship	5 years and under 18 years
Senior Championship	18 years and over

(a) **Junior Championship Sections**

1	Junior	5 years to 9 years
2	Intermediate	10 years to 13 years
3	Seniors	14 years to 17 years
4	-----	
5	Top Club	5 years to 17 years
6	Novelty	5 years to 17 years
7	Triples Junior	5 years to 12 years
8	Triples Intermediate	13 years to 17 years
9	Cheerleaders	5 years to 17 years
10	Restricted	5 years to 17 years
13	Same Sex	5 years to 17 years

(b) **Senior Championship Sections**

1	Open	18 years and over
2	Platinum	30 years and over
3	Golden	40 years and over
4	Masters	50 years and over
5	Top Club	18 years and over
6	Novelty	18 years and over
7	Open Triples	18 years and over
8	Senior Triples	35 years and over
9	-----	
10	Open Restricted	18 years and over
11	Senior Restricted	40 years and over
12	Diamond	60 years and over
14	Novice	18 years and over

1.9 (c) Dancing in Higher Section – Junior Championship only.

One partner of a couple in the Junior or Intermediate sections is entitled to dance up a section if, and only if, by adding two years to that person's age the competitor then fulfils the age requirements for the other partner's higher section. Likewise one or two members of a Junior Triples team can dance up a section if the third member is of Intermediate Triples age.

Note that:

- (i) The reverse cannot happen, i.e. a competitor cannot dance down a section.
- (ii) A Senior section entrant for the Junior Championship cannot thereby qualify for entry to the Senior Championship.

- (iii) A dancer who is 17 years of age whose birthday falls between 31<sup>st</sup> October and 30<sup>th</sup> April will be able to dance at senior nationals prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. A birth certificate must be provided. Once having danced a senior nationals, a competitor cannot again dance a junior nationals.
- 1.10 To establish Club loyalty, a person can only represent one Association Club per Nationals Championship.
- 1.11 The Host club must liaise with the New Zealand Executive Committee on all aspects of Hosting the National Competition including Nationals checklist. See Book B.
- 1.12 That Club/s hosting National Championships be required by the NZARRA to make a video of all competition categories and presentations, including all the dancing in all the heats, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals of the event to be available for purchase at a reasonable cost to Associated Clubs.
- 1.13 That all reasonable accommodation/travel expenses pertaining to national championships expended by official judges and scrutineers on behalf of the Association be reimbursed by the Association.
- 1.14 Breach of any of these rules and/or instructions may render an entry invalid and/or subject to whatever ruling that the Executive Committee deem necessary in order to protect the integrity and status of the National Championship.
- 1.15 The Executive Committee reserves to itself the right of determining the status of all competitors and judges, and of applying the rules appearing herein and the decision of the Committee shall be final.
- 1.16 The Executive Committee will officiate at all National Competitions with a minimum of three people excluding the Immediate Past President. No officiating Executive will participate in the competition.

## **2. DRESS CODE**

- 2.1 The dress code for competitors shall be traditional rock'n'roll clothing. This dress code does not apply to sections 6 and 9 (Novelty and Cheerleaders)
- 2.1 (a) The National Dress code will apply to Junior Same Sex Section 13 i.e. females will dress in lady's attire, males in men's attire.
- 2.2 The lady's dress and petticoat must cover the kneecap completely, that is the crease at the back of the kneecap as well, inclusive of petticoats, which by definition shall be tiered, layered or frilled to enhance the fullness of the dress and must be worn whilst competing in the National Championships.  
The exception is Restricted Sections where ladies have the option of wearing calf length straight skirts.
- 2.3 Competitors must also wear their competition clothing when being presented with a placement / medal / trophy in all categories.
- 2.4 The dress code shall be monitored in a marshalling area by the Floor Manager(s) and the Head Judge prior to the Best Dressed competition.  
Competitors must be dressed as they intend to appear on the floor for the dance

competition, apart from jackets, boleros, shawls, capes, ties and neck scarves, which are optional and may be removed before dancing.

Where there is one article of clothing perceived to be two, then it will be as if it were the non removable item e.g. a waistcoat attached to a jacket could not be removed.

2.5 (a) The following items are not to be worn:

Denim jeans	Harem pants
Tee-shirts	
Flared trousers	
Pedal pushers	Men's shorts
Bike pants	High-heeled footwear
Track pants	Wrist bands
Multi-coloured running shoes	
Mini length skirts or dresses	
High-cut bikini pants or knickers or wide legged boxer shorts	
Aerobic tights or skirts or aerobic-style clothing	

(b) Shoes with heels should have heels no higher than 20mm measured at the instep. The heel prints must have a minimum measurement of 40mm x 40mm.

(c) A medical certificate is required for any dancer needing a wrist bandage.

2.6 Failure to comply with the national dress code before the commencement of the first heat in that section will result in disqualification.

### **3. Assessments**

3.1 To enable the Executive Committee to monitor that the rules of the Association are adhered to:

(a) The Head Judge must receive notification prior to any assessment taking place.

(b) Copies of **all** judging sheets, scrutineers sheets along with the competitors' names or a copy of the programme, are to be sent to the Head Judge within one week of the assessment. (Refer also to Rule 8.12)

(c) In the case of assessments being held within one week of the closing date of entries then no later than the closing date of the National Championship entries - refer rule 4.4. Failure to comply may render the entry invalid.

3.2 Dancing partnerships having failed to pass their initial assessment may seek further assessments in the year of the competition as listed below and prior to the closing date for entries.

- "Year" in the case of the Junior Championship means Easter to Easter.
- "Year" in the case of the Senior Championship means Labour Weekend to Labour Weekend.
- Easter and Labour Weekend are deemed to be over at midnight on the last day of competition.  
(This relates only to assessment.)

- 3.2.1 If a dancing partnership has passed assessment in sections 1, 2, 3, 4 or 12 and either partner then suffers injury/illness, that partnership may seek approval for reassessment in section 10 or 11 only, but must produce a valid medical certificate upon application to the Executive Committee.
- 3.3 To ensure that the National Championships are of a high standard, competing couples/triples teams must be assessed in the section that they intend to compete in. - refer rule 1.9 (a) and 1.9 (b). The assessment is to be held within the 12 months preceding the national championship concerned and have been judged by two or more New Zealand Association Judges and to take place within New Zealand.
- 3.4 (a) Assessments may be held at your club championships.  
(b) Clubs must hold an assessment for competing couples/triples teams or ensure that they attend an assessment.  
(c) No competitor(s) shall be assessed from film, video or TV.
- 3.5 (a) When assessments are being held whether in conjunction with Club competitions/championships or otherwise the couples/teams being assessed must be notified to the Scrutineers in writing and/or on the Scrutineers/Floor Managers' programme prior to the start of the said competition/championship/assessment. Refer Rule 3.9 & 3.10.  
(b) All Association Judges invited to judge club championships where assessments are being held must be utilised on the assessment. Officiating Judges do not need to be made aware of whom they are assessing.  
(c) Judges should not officiate at assessments if they have close personal or family ties or have coached competitors.
- 3.6 To ensure that assessments are fair and honest, the music is to be selected from the current N.Z.A.R.R.A. National Song List according to rules 5.4 and 5.8 and without the competitors' knowledge prior to the song being announced at their assessment.
- 3.7 The Nationals dress code must be adhered to for assessments, for example, the dress length and correct petticoat, - and monitored accordingly by the Floor Manager(s) and/or Head Judge.
- 3.8 (a) A points system for assessment at club level is the criteria for entry into the NZAR'n'RA. Inc. National Championships for both Junior and Senior competitors.  
(b) Each competing couple shall be marked out of 10 for each category - timing, harmony and variety - for an overall maximum number of points equalling 30 for the slow song and 30 for the fast song, equalling a total of 60 points maximum per judge, per couple.  
(c) Couples will dance to one slow and then one fast song.  
Triples will dance to one slow medium and then one faster medium song.
- 3.9 Depending on how many judges are utilised, the total number of points will vary but the set "National Qualifying Level" will be:

50% for the Open section  
45% for the Platinum and Senior sections  
40% for the Golden and Intermediate sections  
35% for the Diamond and Masters sections  
30% for the Junior section  
35% for the Juniors Triples Section  
40% for Intermediate Triples Section and Senior Triples  
45% for Open Triples Section  
45% for Open Restricted Section  
40% for Senior Restricted Section  
35% for Junior Restricted Section  
35% for Junior Same Sex Section

of the total points available from all Association judges used.

- 3.10 (a) Any couple having achieved National Qualifying Level points as per rule 3.9 shall be entitled to compete at the National Championships in sections 1, 2, 3 and 10 of the Junior Championships and sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11 and 12 of the Senior Championships.
- (b) Any Triples team having achieved National Qualifying Level points as per rule 3.9 shall be entitled to compete at the National Championships in sections 7 or 8.
- (c) Any Same Sex couple having achieved National Qualifying level points as per Rule 3.9 shall be entitled to compete at the national championship in section 13.
- (d) Any Senior Novice couple shall be entitled to compete at the senior national championship in section 14. Assessment is not required.

#### **4. ENTRIES/ENTRY FORMS**

4.1 Entries must be made on the form supplied by the Association and every entry must be accompanied by the total entry fee such fee being determined by the Executive Committee each year.

4.2 Entry forms show:

- iii) The section names and the age limits for the sections.
- ii) The names, addresses and club affiliations of all competitors.
- iii) Every competitor's date of birth.

Any competitor whose age may be questioned shall produce a birth certificate if required at the time of entry or subsequently.

Any forms must be typed or printed for clarity and must be signed by all competitors or guardians to verify correctness.

Novelty entry forms will state the requirements that the act be of a standard suitable for family viewing but do not have to be signed by the competitors.

Note: entry forms are not required for the Best Dressed Competitions.

4.3 The age of an entrant is taken to be:

for Junior Championships, their age as at 30<sup>th</sup> April of the year of the competition

for Senior Championships their age as at 31<sup>st</sup> October of the year of the competition.

Refer to Rule 1.9 (c.) for exceptions.

4.4 The closing date for all entries (including Novelty) is:

Junior Championship 1<sup>st</sup> February

Senior Championship 1<sup>st</sup> September

4.5 Entries received will be receipted and acknowledged by the Association Secretary within one calendar month of closing date.

4.6 Any entries posted after closing date without prior arrangement with the Association Secretary shall be null and void.

4.7 By applying to the Association to compete in the National Championship, the entrant thereby accepts the rules and instructions laid down by the Association for the championship.

4.8 The receiving of any entry in good faith by the Association does not imply acceptance by the Association for regularity or compliance with the conditions relative to such entry, which is at the risk of the entrant.

4.9 In general, the Executive Committee shall decide on any questions of eligibility or otherwise arising out of the conditions and may in any case accept or decline any entry.

4.10 Minimum Number of Competitors & Age Limits

- (a) There are two criteria governing the minimum numbers required for sanctioning a competition in any section. If both of these criteria are not met, then the Executive Committee may postpone or cancel the competition in the section concerned. If the number of accepted entries falls below the minimum stated, the competition may be postponed or cancelled. However in the interest of protecting the 'Mana' of the National Championship as a whole, the Executive Committee may reopen entries to all clubs in that section.

The criteria (per section) are:

(i) Acceptance of entries from three (3) or more clubs.

(ii) The following minimum number of dancers as listed in the following tables:

- (b) Minimum number of Club entries to hold a Competition.

**Senior Championship**

1	Open	3 couples
2	Platinum	3 couples
3	Golden	3 couples
4	Masters	3 couples
5	Top Club	3 teams

6	Novelty	3 entries
7	Open Triples	3 teams
8	Senior Triples	3 teams
9	-----	
10	Open Restricted	3 couples
11	Senior Restricted	3 couples
12	Diamond	3 couples
14	Novice	3 couples

### **Junior Championship**

1	Junior	3 couples
2	Intermediate	3 couples
3	Senior	3 couples
4	-----	
5	Top Club	3 teams
6	Novelty	3 entries
7	Junior Triples	3 teams
8	Intermediate Triples	3 teams
9	Cheerleaders	3 teams
10	Restricted	3 couples
13	Same Sex	3 couples

4.11 The maximum number of entries for each Club in section  
(5) is: 1 team, (6) is: 1 entry (9) is: 1 team

4.12 An entrant or competitor can only enter one section of sections  
1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11 and 12 in the National Championships.

An entrant or competitor in section 14 (Novice) cannot compete in any other section  
except 5 or 6 (Top Team & Novelty).

## **5. COMPETITION PROCESS**

- 5.1 (a) The timetable for the competition will be set by the Executive Committee in conjunction with the host club. The Senior Championships and the Junior Championships shall start on a Saturday.
- (b) Where the number of entries in sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 exceeds four couples or four triples, then the finalists will be determined through the process of heats, quarter finals and semi finals, depending on the number of entries. The Executive Committee will make the decision as to whether or not there are sufficient entries in a section to warrant quarter finals and may, if deemed necessary, hold three semi finals instead of the usual two before progression to the finals.
- (c) Provided Rule 4.10 is adhered to, a semi final will be danced in sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 irrespective of the number of competitors entered.
- 5.2 The highest scoring competitors from each stage progress to the next stage of the championship.

- 5.3 (a) Championship places will be awarded for 4th, 3rd, 2nd, and 1st in the finals except for sections 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, which will be awarded for 3rd, 2nd and 1st. They are to be announced in the following order: 3rd, 2nd, 1st, 4th.
- (b) When a couple or triples combination reaches the final but are not placed, they are to be acknowledged with a finalist medal for the section they danced in.
- 5.4 (a) Competitors in sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 are required to dance to 1 slow and then 1 fast song/instrumental in each stage of the competition.
- (b) The songs/instrumentals are to be original recording and artist (or most known version) selected by the Executive Committee.
- (c) The Executive will choose songs between the years of 1953 and 1964 inclusive and the length of the songs for the list will be a minimum of 1.45 seconds and a maximum of 3 minutes in length.
- (d) The music for the National Competitions to be selected for each dancing section and that music should be of similar length and tempo within each section's heats, quarters and semi-finals."
- (e) Slow songs will be from 110 bpm to 136 bpm inclusive.  
Medium songs will be from 137 bpm to 156 bpm inclusive.  
Fast songs will be from 157 bpm to 185 bpm inclusive.
- 5.5 An optional best dressed parade will be held on Saturday prior to the particular section of competition for sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11 and 12, and on Sunday prior to competition 5, 7, 8 and 13 and prior to section 14. Seven official judges will judge these parades.
- 5.6 Competitors in section 5 dance to a song selected by the Executive Committee. The song and artist shall be notified to clubs by the Association no less than 3 months prior to the championships.
- 5.7 Competitors in section 6 dance/perform a floorshow/item fit for family viewing of their own choice or design of a duration of no longer than four (4) minutes - such time to include entry/exit from the competition floor, inclusive of property set up. While fun and humour is important, points will be awarded for the presentation and entertainment value of the item.
- 5.8 Competitors in sections 7 and 8 Triples will dance to one slow medium and then one faster medium song/instrumental in each stage of the competition. The songs/instrumentals are to be original recording and artist (or most known version) selected by the Executive Committee.
- 5.9 Competitors in section 9 Junior Cheerleaders shall perform to accompanying music (if desired) and/or cheers and chants, no longer than 3 minutes duration, the timing to start from the first chant or the start of the music till the last competitor leaves the competition floor. No Club participation from the sidelines is permitted.
- 5.10 Order of Performance. Competitors shall make themselves acquainted with the hour set down in the programme for the judging of each section and shall be ready to take the competition floor at least ten minutes before such hour or otherwise as provided.

- (a) The competitor's names appear in the programme in the order in which they will compete. Except with permission under special circumstances, competitors not ready when called upon shall forfeit their right to compete.
  - (b) Any entrant not ready to appear in the order shown on the programme shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the competition.
- 5.11 Any competitor having taken the competition floor can be disqualified if they leave the competition floor before being instructed to do so by the floor manager. This rule does not apply to Section 6, Novelty and Section 9, Cheerleaders.
- 5.12 When competitors are called back into the quarter finals, semi-finals, and finals the competitor numbers should be called at random.

## **6. JUDGING SYSTEM**

**6.1 HEATS** - In the heats two judges are allocated to judge each section, i.e.

- 2 judges are allocated to judge - Timing
- 2 judges are allocated to judge - Variety
- 2 judges are allocated to judge - Harmony

**6.2 QUARTER FINALS & SEMI-FINALS** -- In the quarter finals and semi finals two judges are allocated to judge each section, but in order to have some balance in the judging, they are allocated to judge a different section from that allocated in the heats,

i.e.\*\*\* EXAMPLE ONLY \*\*\*

- 2 judges on Timing may now judge Harmony
- 2 judges on Variety may now judge Timing
- 2 judges on Harmony may now judge Variety

**6.3 POINTS SYSTEM**

The heats, quarter finals and semi finals are judged on a points system from 0-10 points.

Each judge marks each song (1 slower, 1 faster).

With six judges and two songs the maximum that can be scored is 120 points, in each instance.

The highest scoring competitors proceed to the next round of the competitions, and if necessary a dance off will take place to resolve any tied placing.

**"PLEASE NOTE":** This points system is similar to but different from the points system used for National qualifying.

Judges should also note that when the Executive Committee selects the competitors for the heats the only criteria used is an endeavour to try to have as many different clubs represented in each heat as is possible. Other than that the competitors are selected on a random basis (numbers and names are 'drawn out of a hat') and hence it is possible that the eventual finalists may all be in the same heat together.

Competitors should note:

The points system has been introduced to permit entrants to assess what aspects of their dance can be improved upon at the next competition so that they may have a better chance of reaching the finals.

- 6.3.1 (a) In section 10 and 11 (Restricted) if a Judge sights an illegal move as per 11.5.1 then that Judge will give the couple an "X" for that song regardless of which categories they are judging, (Timing, Harmony and/or Variety).

Note: While this will severely penalize a couple, they are not disqualified and could progress to the next round if enough points are earned in the other, non transgressing song.

- (b) Restricted Section Final: If two or more judges sight an illegal move as per 11.5.1 in the same song and therefore give an "X" for that song, the scrutineers give the placing, for that song only, of double the number of competitors in the final, therefore ensuring a last place.

## **6.4 FINALS**

- (a) The finals are judged by 7 judges.
- (b) The two songs are judged separately as in the heats, quarter-finals and semi-finals.
- (c) The three categories (timing, variety, and harmony) are judged together and not separately as in the heats, quarter and semi-finals.
- (d) Points are not awarded; each judge places the competitors from first to last place. Thus the placings are determined by the scrutineers and if tied a dance off would result.

6.4.1 Judge/s can request competitors to dance one extra song.

6.4.2 If a third song is called for in the Final of sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 the slow or fast dance in question will be re-danced by the competitors, slow or fast. This will be at the Floor Manager/s instruction prior to the next section of the competition. Only the judge calling for the third song will judge, all other judges will armchair.

6.4.3 In the Final of sections 7 & 8, Triples, the slow or fast dance in question will be re-danced by the teams, slow medium or faster medium. This will be at the Floor Manager/s instruction prior to the next section of the competition. Only the judge calling for the third song will judge, all other judges will armchair.

## **6.5 TIED POSITIONS**

A dance-off will be held to resolve tied positions only where necessary. Competitors in tied positions are eligible to proceed to the next stage of competition up to and including the final, with a maximum number of six competitors in any quarterfinal, semi-final or final.

6.5.1 A dance-off will consist of one song/instrumental being medium; only tied competitors/teams will be called on to the competition floor; competitors/teams will be judged as for finals.

## **6.6 JUDGES**

A minimum of six judges are appointed to judge each National Championship section - e.g. Platinum, Top Club, etc. Depending on the number of judges that may be available, a judge may be appointed to one or more or all championship sections. As part of a judge's training, the Head Judge may invite armchair judges to participate, however their sheets must be of another colour to that used for the competition judges.

6.6.1 If the Head Judge is involved in judging the competition, a Floor Manager should be appointed for the purpose of checking the judges sheets before they are handed to the Scrutineers.

6.6.2 A specified area can be set aside for armchair judges at National Championships. All armchair judges shall have a clear view but shall not be permitted in any way to obstruct the view or hinder the performance of official judges.

## **6.7 SCRUTINEERS**

Scrutineers as appointed by the Executive Committee shall collate the results of the individual judges judging sheets and determine placings at all stages of the competition.

6.7.1 The scrutineers sheets will not be on view at the completion of the competition. The judges decisions are final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

## **7. CONDUCT AND OBLIGATIONS**

Please take note of rules 1.10, 1.14 and 1.15

### **7.1 JUDGES & SCRUTINEERS - OFF LIMITS TO COMPETITORS**

No competitor, his or her club, his or her parent, or other interested party shall communicate with the judges or scrutineers on the subject of the competitor immediately prior to or during the competition.

### **7.2 COMPETITORS - OFF LIMITS TO JUDGES**

Communication with competitors: No judge shall communicate with competitors on any subject immediately prior to or during the competition.

7.3 During the competition process the stage area and equipment is out of bounds to all except the MC, DJ(s) and Floor Manager(s) or person(s) approved by the Floor Manager(s).

7.4 It is illegal for any competitor to receive audible or visual coaching from the sidelines whilst on the competition floor. Such conduct could result in the competitors being disqualified and/or the coach/s being removed from the venue.

7.5 Any club or parent in charge of any competitor(s) shall be responsible for the general good conduct and decorum of such competitors and shall observe the instructions of the Floor Manager, an Executive Committee member, or other official acting under the Floor Manager's direction.  
Refer Rule 5.7 - Section 6 competitors' requirement that such entry be of a standard suitable for family viewing.

7.6 By entering section 6 (Novelty), a Club automatically accepts full financial liability for any cost associated with damage caused by their entry.

7.7 In the case of a team, or other entry involving a group of two or more competitors, where they have appointed a representative to be in charge of the group, that person shall be deemed to have accepted these Rules and Instructions on behalf of such group.

## **7.8 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

Any complaints must be submitted in writing to the New Zealand Executive by a Club and will be tabled at the next Executive meeting.

## **7.9 PROPERTIES**

No properties of any description will be permitted in any event. However properties are permitted in the Novelty section providing not more than 1 entrant is on the competition floor at a time. Substances such as powder, liquids, or anything which may affect the surface of the competition floor to the detriment of other competitors shall not be used as properties.

7.9.1 Section 9 (Cheerleaders) are permitted to use only pom-poms as properties.

7.10 The Floor Manager(s) shall ensure that the music or recording for all events is present prior to the commencement of the competition, but it shall be the responsibility of the competitors to ensure that if their own recording is used, it is set up correctly ready to commence.

## **8. JUDGES**

Any National Association, Association, or Trainee Judge must be a current financial member of an Affiliated Club and must act in a professional manner and have a responsibility to the Association. Their conduct should always be beyond reproach when representing the Association.

8.1 Any National Association, Association, or Trainee Judge must maintain the judging standard required, such standards to be determined by the Executive Committee.

8.2 All National Association, Association or Trainee Judges must be supplied with the current New Zealand Amateur Rock'n'Roll Association Inc. Rule Book and must comply with the rules and any amendments relating to them.

8.3 Any Judge having accepted the invitation to Judge at the forthcoming National Championships, must declare to the Head Judge any conflict of interest including coaching a couple in that National Championship. Where it is not possible for the Head Judge to use said Judge in an Arm Chair capacity for that section, they must cease coaching immediately or withdraw from Judging. Judges must also advise the Head Judge of any close personal or immediate family relations that may be competing in that Championship

8.3 (a) All officiating judges are to receive a copy of the Scrutineers sheets after a National Competition.

8.4 A Judge having accepted an invitation to judge at a forthcoming Nationals must

attend a judging workshop immediately prior to that nationals, i.e. February/March in the case of Juniors and August/September in the case of Seniors, with the exception of special circumstances agreed to by the Head Judge.

- 8.5 Any written complaints or non-compliance of these rules will be investigated by the N.Z. Executive. If the nature of the complaints is likely to lead to the dismissal of a Judge, a panel will be convened as soon as practicable to consider such allegations. The panel will consist of the Head Judge and four senior National Association Judges selected by their peers i.e. fellow Judges, but representing the three regions.
- 8.6 Following an investigation with the person or persons concerned the panel will make their recommendations to the Executive within seven days. The Executive will notify those concerned, in writing, of the outcome within a further seven days.
- 8.7 Any judge failing to attend the compulsory 1 workshop per year, with the exception of special circumstances agreed to by the Head Judge, will be required to seek re-nomination from their Club and will need to attend a judges' workshop to be reinstated to the List. The judge will then commence his/her judging criteria as per rule 8.10 again.
- 8.8 A Judge finding that his/her name has been removed from the register of judges, for other than disciplinary reasons, be given the right to have their name reinstated provided they meet the relevant criteria, this to be determined by the Executive Committee in conjunction with the Judges panel according to the status of the judge concerned.

#### **8.9 TRAINING JUDGES CRITERIA**

**Before being accepted onto the Trainee Judges List, an applicant must:**

- a) Have attained the age of 18 years.
- b) Be nominated by their Club, in writing, to the Head Judge of the NZARRA.
- c) Complete and return to the Head Judge an introductory questionnaire attesting to their Rock'n'Roll experience and commitment.
- d) Attend a Judges Workshop for assessment of their capability by the Head Judge.
- e) Have their application considered and accepted by the Executive Committee.
- f) Upon being accepted onto the Trainee Judges List, they can then begin the criteria as per Rule 8.10 to qualify as an Association Judge.
- g) All Trainee Judges must attend a minimum of one judging workshop per calendar year thereafter.

**8.10 The criteria to qualify as an Association Judge is as follows and must be completed in the following order.**

- 1) Armchair judge a minimum of six competitions, all using the NZARRA rules, judging guidelines, Association appointed judges and using the points system.
- 2) Officially judge a minimum of four competitions all using the NZARRA rules, judging guidelines and Association appointed judges.

- 3) Sit and pass an examination set by the Head Judge.
- 4) Addition to the official register of Association judges will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 5) All Association Judges must attend a minimum of one Judging workshop per calendar year.

**8.11 The criteria to qualify and remain as a National Association Judge is as follows:**

- 1) To have qualified as an Association Judge.
- 2) Armchair judge a minimum of two National Championships, a Junior and Senior.
- 3) Addition to the official register of National Association Judges will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 4) All National Association Judges must attend a minimum of one Judging workshop per calendar year
- 5) Be available to judge a minimum of one Nationals Competition per calendar year.

8.12 To assist with the evaluation of judges, copies of **all** competition sheets are to be sent to the head judge within one week of the said competition whether assessments have taken place or not.

## **9. CHALLENGE CUPS AND TROPHIES**

9.1 All cups and trophies donated for competitions or as special prizes become the property of the Association on acceptance by the Association, and stay as specified and must be donated from affiliated Clubs only and not individuals. To ensure that the trophies are of an acceptable quality and likeness to the existing trophies, the Executive shall purchase the said trophies and charge the donating clubs accordingly.

9.2 The Association maintains a register of Cups and Trophies handed out. All competition winners must sign the register.

(a) The cups and trophies, being the property of the Association are held by the winner(s) for the remainder of each competition year only, and must be returned to the Association not later than 1 month prior to the next championship in a clean and polished state.

(b) Engraving of these trophies is at the cost of the recipients/Clubs.

(c) Recipients' Clubs will be charged \$35.00 per trophy for each trophy returned later than one month prior to the next championship.

(d) Clubs will be informed of the person to whom the trophies are to be sent.

9.4 Cups and trophies will be awarded on the day of the championship and will be the responsibility of the recipients' Clubs for return or replacement.

- 9.5 All cups and trophies will be decided on a placing basis.
- 9.6 In any event, if a couple or a team win the cup for 3 consecutive years a miniature non-returnable trophy is to be given to them in recognition of their achievement.
- 9.7 Two types of trophies are supplied to place-getters in the championships, returnable and non-returnable.
- (a) Non-returnable: Each place-getter in the sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9,10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 and only one of each place-getting team in section 6 receive an engraved place medal and ribbon. The Best Dressed Male and Female place-getters on Sunday evening also receive an engraved place medal and ribbon.
  - (b) Returnable: Each section has one trophy or cup for the winner(s). In addition to the dancing trophies and cups (including section 6), there are 3 trophies, one each, for best dressed male and female for Sunday evening and Most Supportive Club.

## **10. DEFINITIONS**

- 10.1 Financial Year: The Association financial year is 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March inclusive.
- 10.2 The Executive Council - refer to the Constitution.
- 10.3 The Executive Committee - refer to the Constitution.
- 10.4 Club/Society: A Rock'n'Roll Club.
- 10.5 Amateur. The definition of amateur as it relates to this Association means that the dancers do not receive money or cash prizes for competing in our competitions and our Executive Officers and Judges are all voluntary positions.
- 10.6 Couple is defined as 1 male and 1 female dancer.
- (a) A Same Sex couple is defined as 2 male or 2 female dancers.
  - (b) A Senior Novice couple is defined as 1 male and 1 female dancer both 18 & over, both of whom have never competed at any National competition, excluding Novelty. (Refer Rule 4.12)
- 10.7 Competitor means a person, being an accepted entrant for the championship.
- 10.8 An entry/entrant is defined as 1 couple or 1 team as appropriate to the championship section entered.
- 10.9 A Top Club team is made up of three couples.
- 10.10 A Triple team is defined as 1 male and two female dancers.
- 10.11 A Cheerleaders Team will consist of a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 12 competitors.
- 10.12 A Judge is a person who according to their level of experience and knowledge of the judging systems and rules in place for judging all rock and roll competitions will either be a:

Level One - Trainee Judge - A person training to be a judge who is a member of a club affiliated to the Association who fulfils the requirements of Rule 8.9 (a - g) and has been nominated by their club and accepted by the NZ Executive Committee to commence training.

Level Two - Association Judge - An Association Judge is a Trainee Judge who has qualified by completing 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of Rule 8.10 and therefore capable of judging all competitions and assessments, except the National Championships.

Level Three - National Association Judge - is an Association Judge who has further completed the criteria and Rule 8.11 (1, 2, 3, 4 & 5) and therefore capable of judging all competitions, assessments and the National Championships.

- 10.13 A Scrutineer of National Dance Competitions shall be a person who has completed and passed the prescribed course of instruction and subsequent examinations prescribed by the New Zealand Amateur Rock 'n' Roll Association or the New Zealand Society of Scrutineers and/or the Southern Scrutineers Association.
- 10.13.1 At least one of the Scrutineers of the National competitions will have to be a qualified current member of either the New Zealand Society of Scrutineers and/or the Southern Scrutineers Society.
- 10.14 Scrutineers Sheets - are the tabulations from collating the information received from the judges sheets, and are used to determine which competitors progress to the next stage, and the placings in the final.
- 10.15 Floor Manager(s) - Floor manager(s) are appointed by or from within the Executive Committee to supervise the running of the competition programme.
- 10.16 Runners shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in conjunction with the host club to collect judges sheets etc. and deliver them to the Floor Manager or Head Judge.
- 10.17 Competition floor is defined as the area confined within the judges' podiums.
- 10.18 Calendar year is from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December.

## **11. JUDGING DEFINITIONS**

Once you look around it becomes obvious that there is more than one way to Rock'n'Roll. More than one style is clearly evident. Whatever the style the basic functions of dance and the ability of dancers to perform with the music does not change. What matters is the dancers' ability to dance.

### 11.1 Definitions:

The competitors' dancing ability is judged in the following categories:

- (a) Timing
- (b) Harmony
- (c) Variety

### 11.2 Timing is defined as partners dancing in time with the music and one another.

- 11.3 Harmony is defined as partners complementing one another in a dance routine to the music.
- 11.4 Variety is defined as a dance routine with a spread of different moves. (For further descriptions, please see the Judges Guidelines.)
- 11.5 An inappropriate move in Rock 'n' Roll, sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 is any move that:
- (a) Is done more than two arm lengths apart, such move(s) breaking the continuity of the dance. In section 5, Top Club event; each partner of a couple must stay within two arm lengths of each other excluding entry and exit. However each couple in the team should be evenly spaced but not necessarily two arm lengths from another couple
  - (b) Is one where physical contact is lost between the partners whilst one is above the head of the other/s when standing in an upright position.
- 11.5.1 In Section 10 and 11 only, an illegal move is one where one person in the couple takes the weight of the other person while that person is not in contact with the floor.

**\*\*Example\*\***

**When either one of the partnership would be unable to execute the move/jump alone.**

- 11.6 Interference with other dancers on the competition floor. Points will be deducted if a couple or triples team are seen to cause interference to another couple/team, while on the dance floor.

**Please also refer to the following:**

- The Constitution
- Book B - Organisational Matters.
- The Minutes of Annual General Meetings.
- Your Club committee and/or club delegates who have attended Annual General Meetings of the Association.

- The Association Secretary:

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